

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Which do you prefer:
Continued 16-hour work
hour cuts or retrenchment
of 'non-essential'
government employees?

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INSIDE



30th Birthday

Hyatt Regency Saipan reaches another milestone in providing hospitality in the Marianas.

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Fifth Anniversary

IT&E chief Ricky Delgado leads the company's celebration of its fifth anniversary in the CNMI.

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1M Sold

Taylor Swift fans have spoken more than a million times.

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Fund issues notice of possible reduction-in-force to staff. PAGE 5

AFTER 16 DAYS IN COMA

Man hit by car dies

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Sixteen days after lingering in a coma, a man hit by a car as he was crossing Middle Road in Garapan passed away Tuesday night.

Saipan Tribune learned from sources at the Department of Public Safety and Commonwealth Health Center that the 42-year-old Chinese national died soon after family members agreed to unhook him from the life support system.

The victim had been in a coma at CHC's intensive care unit after being taken there on the night of Oct. 18. He sustained a fractured skull, with severe brain injuries.

See MAN on Page 4

Voters junk
3 initiatives

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The proposed pension obligation bond and two other legislative initiatives died at the polls, with unofficial results of the Nov. 2 election showing majority of voters junks the proposals.

Data released by the Commonwealth Election Commission show that 4,400 voters (57 percent) said

HOW THEY VOTED

YES NO

HLI 17-1	3,376	4,400
HLI 16-13	3,716	3,957
HLI 16-18	3,228	4,472

no to the pension obligation bond measure, House Legislative Initiative 17-1, while only 3,376 voted yes (43 percent).

This came about despite efforts by both the NMI Retirement Fund and the Fitial administration to convince voters of the importance of passing the initiatives, touted as a means to alleviating the financial status of the islands' pension program.

House Legislative Initiative 17-1 sought to add a new section to the CNMI Constitution to authorize the government to issue pension obligation bonds. The money raised would be used to pay the government's more than \$281 million debt with the Retirement Fund.

A similar fate befell House Legislative Initiative 16-13, which would prohibit any increase in retirement benefits until all government obligations to the Fund have been satisfied or the system is fully funded. People who voted no totaled 3,957—or 51 percent—compared to the 3,716 who backed the proposal (49 percent).

House Legislative Initiative 16-18,
See VOTERS on Page 4

Kilili outlines agenda under his second term



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Newly re-elected Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan holds yesterday his first news conference at his district office in Susupe, after a landslide victory in a four-way race on Tuesday. In the 35-minute news briefing, Sablan thanked the Commonwealth people and answered questions on a host of subjects, including his thoughts on the election, his relationship with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, a Republican-dominated U.S. House of Representatives in January 2011, and his pending bills, among other things.

» **Federal status for
IRs, CNMI permanent residents on
his agenda**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

When newly re-elected Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan goes back to Washington, D.C. a week from now, he will set his sight

on the Rota national park and submerged lands bills, and continue pushing for health, education, tourism and immigration issues that include federal immigration status for immediate relatives of U.S. citizens and

See KILILI on Page 4

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Local

San Nicolas, 4 others named Tinian Elementary's awardees



San Nicolas



Sarmiento



Sanchez



Linan



Rodel

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Editor's Note: As part of the celebration of Education Month this November, the Saipan Tribune will be featuring the nominees of the different public schools throughout the month.

A nine-year educator at the Tinian Elementary School was adjudged as the school's teacher of the year for 2010-2011, setting her up to compete for the CNMI-wide title later this month, along with four others who were selected as the school's outstanding employees in various categories.

Jennifer S. San Nicolas was selected by her peers for the teacher of the year plum after taking the extra responsibility to ensure that her students get the best education from her. She does this by constantly growing professionally to enhance her teaching abilities so that she is able to provide the

strategies and skills needed at the different grade levels.

San Nicolas, who joined the Public School System in January 2002 as a fifth grade teacher after completing her degree at the University of Guam, was described as a very committed individual.

She has coordinated and or-

ganized many school activities and after-school programs that promote student achievement through extra-curricular activities and tutorials.

She has attended numerous professional development trainings to update herself on the most current, research-proven strategies and skills available.

Other awardees

Selected as the school's teacher aide of the year was Teresita U. Sanchez, who has been in the service for about 10 years. Assigned at the school's special education program, she is an expert in sign language and assists students with hearing impairments.

Sanchez obtained an associate degree in Liberal Arts in 2007 along with a certification in Early Childhood Education and Related Service Technician. She has participated in numerous workshops and trainings to enhance her teaching strategies.

Magdalena Sarmiento, the school's administrative staff of the year, was also honored for her dedication to service. Sarmiento joined Tinian Elementary in December 1997 and has been in service for 13 years now.

This is not Sarmiento's first time to be recognized. She was nominated support staff of the year in 1999, 2008, and 2009. Sarmiento works well with people and works beyond the required number of hours to meet deadlines and make sure that things are ready for the following school day.

Tinian Elementary also hailed Rodel as this year's support staff of the year. He has been with PSS for 19 years now, holding many roles under the maintenance division. He first joined Tinian Elementary in March 1991 as a custodian until he became its building maintenance, driver, trade technician, and then was assigned maintenance supervisor in 2009. He provides a safe and orderly school so that students have a conducive learning environment on Tinian.

Victor Linan, who first joined PSS in February 2002 as a custodian, was recognized as the school's support staff of the year in the pupil transportation category. Prior to becoming a bus driver, he served as the school's building maintenance. He does work beyond what is required of him.

Cleaner sues poker operator to collect \$19K Labor award

A commercial cleaner has sued her former employer, a poker operator, for allegedly refusing to pay her \$19,246.08 that the Department of Labor awarded her in 2007.

Melanie Llano Gonzales asked the Superior Court to enforce the Labor order dated Nov. 14, 2007 that found Jung-A Enterprises Inc. liable to pay her unpaid overtime wages and liquidated damages.

Gonzales, through counsel Joe Hill, also sought payment for interest, attorney's fees, and court costs.

In her Labor complaint, Gon-

zales alleged she was required to work as a poker cashier with no days off for a year. She also alleged, among other things, that her employer did not renew her contract after she disclosed in December 2006 that she was pregnant.

Gonzales filed the Labor case with the help of the Ombudsman's Office on Jan. 25, 2007. Labor issued an order favorable to Gonzales on Nov. 14, 2007.

Hill said Jung-A Enterprises was supposed to pay the compensation award on or before Dec. 6, 2007, but has since refused to do so. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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Govt employees get paychecks 2 days early but...

» **It's their last time to get 80-hour pay biweekly this fiscal year**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

After experiencing five partial payless paydays or delayed wages since June, government employees got a reprieve this week, receiving their paychecks two days ahead of the Friday payroll.

Employees got their paychecks on Wednesday, ahead of today's scheduled payroll.

But while the paychecks came in much earlier, it will be the last time that employees—at least in the Executive Branch—will ever see their paychecks reflecting 80 work hours per pay period.

In the next payday, employees will start seeing 64 work hours per pay period because of the fiscal year 2011 budget law that requires a 16-hour cut, as well as 13 unpaid holidays

as part of the government's austerity measures.

"It's different this time, but maybe because we don't have work on Thursday and Friday. After this we won't have 80 hours anymore," one Capital Hill employee who got his paycheck on Wednesday told *Saipan Tribune*.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said the Department of Finance took the necessary steps to process payroll earlier than usual because government offices were closed on Thursday in observance of Citizenship Day and today, as part of the implementation of the Executive Branch's 64-hour work schedule.

"In view of this, payroll was disbursed [Wednesday] through direct deposit to the bank accounts of government

employees. For the select few who are not direct deposit participants, paper checks were issued to them today," Demapan said.

Besides the Citizenship Day on Thursday and austerity Friday for many government agencies, Tuesday was also a holiday because of the election for U.S. delegate.

Demapan said the Executive Branch will resume business on Monday at 8:30am.

For five Friday since June, the government wasn't able to pay most of its employees on time because of severe cash shortage. Only critical service employees such as police of-

Feds OK \$2.4M for child care program

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has approved a \$2.4 million funding for the CNMI's child care program this fiscal year—a significant increase over the \$1.9 million the CNMI got last fiscal year.

In a letter to Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin Faisao, the federal agency's director of office of mandatory grants, Joseph M. Lonergan, said the grant award represents allocation for the CNMI under the Child Care Development Fund.

Total CCDF allocation this fiscal year is \$2,447,454.

Faisao said the additional \$500,000 is a result of the Executive Branch's continuous dialogue with the granting agency and compliance with all requirements.

The CCDF provides child care vouchers to subsidize the cost of care for low-income families as well as funds for state child care quality improvement initiatives. Nearly half of all children receiving these subsidies are in the range of toddler to 12 years old.

Faisao said his department plans to use at least 4 percent of the funds on quality service programs and a portion of the administrative costs to operate the child care program on three islands.

"DCCA will continue to lobby with the governor to utilize the funds to support initiatives to improve the quality and availability of school-age care, such as training programs or capacity-building grants for after-school, child care center based, and relative care providers," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

There are 34 licensed child care centers in the Commonwealth. However, only 22 are qualified recipients of the child care subsidy program. (*Moneth Deposa*)

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Change in CNMI Medicaid funding share by July next year

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan said yesterday that the current 50-50 Medicaid share by the federal government and the CNMI will change to 45-55 by July 1, 2011, and this will result in some \$8 million in savings for the CNMI's matching rate over

the next 10 years.

Currently, 50 percent of Medicaid funding provided by the federal government needs to be matched equally by the CNMI government.

The CNMI currently gets some \$5 million in Medicaid funding from the federal government, but the CNMI spends \$13 million to \$14 million annually. This means any Medicaid

spending over \$5 million is 100 percent subsidized by the CNMI government.

By July next year, the Medicaid funding share will be split 45-55.

Sablan said 5 percent change will result in savings of some \$8 million over the next 10 years for the CNMI.

"Every time that formula changes, there's savings for the CNMI," he said.

year until it goes up to \$21.6 million in 2019.

Sablan's opponents earlier said it's better to have a Medicaid formula change than getting increased Medicaid funding, but Sablan said getting \$9 million on the first year and up to \$21 million in 2010, instead of \$5 million every year is still a better deal.

KILILI

From Page 1

CNMI permanent residents.

Sablan, the first CNMI nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives, will have another two-year term starting in January 2011 as a result of Tuesday's elections.

He said there are three classes of people in the CNMI not covered by U.S. immigration law and will be deportable next year unless something is done, especially in Congress.

These are the immediate relatives of U.S. and Freely Associated States citizens, CNMI permanent residents, and those born in the CNMI between 1974 and 1978.

"I'm not saying give them green cards. I'm not saying give them citizenship. I'm just saying recognize their present status here until that time when they can apply for a changed status," Sablan said yesterday in his first news briefing after a landslide victory in a four-way delegate race on Tuesday.

He said all he's asking is for the federal government to recognize the CNMI laws that gave status to these three classes of people in the Commonwealth.

Sablan cited his neighbor who is earning minimum wage and is married to a Japanese woman. His neighbor's wife could not work because of back problems and they have three children.

"What do we do with that family next year if we don't do something for them? All I'm asking the federal government, despite all this nonsense that they [detractors during the campaign season] threw against me...is to recognize the law that the CNMI has already put in place and continue the status of these IRs, these CNMI permanent residents remaining and these 91 individuals who have status in the Northern Marianas," he said.

Sablan said everyone who wants to obtain a green card will have to apply for it.

But he recognized that many of the people here who will apply for a green card won't get the changed status because of the income threshold.

"We also need to find a way for the secretary of Homeland Security to adjust those income thresholds for a certain period of time," he told reporters in his office in Susupe.

On foreign workers

Sablan said the status of foreign workers in the CNMI has been decided with U.S. Public Law 110-229, the law that placed CNMI immigration under federal control effective Nov. 28, 2009.

"It had nothing to do with Kilili," he said.

He, however, said the CNMI economy will be negatively impacted when all foreign workers leave the islands.

When he goes back to the nation's capital, Sablan said he will again fol-

low up on the status of the transitional foreign worker regulations and the investor regulations, which he understands is still at the White House.

"I say it again. Not everyone can, and not everyone will be helped. If there are IRs here who have [criminal] background and problems...they won't be helped. That's just a fact of life. But like I said and I say it again, no one that I know of will be given direct citizenship or direct green card," he added.

Pending bills

Sablan also shared his thoughts on the issues hurled against him during the campaign, his relationship with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, and his second term in a soon-to-be Republican-dominated U.S. House of Representatives, and his pending bills in Congress.

He also thanked his supporters and voters for giving him another term to serve them.

The delegate said he looks forward to the U.S. Senate's action on his bill authorizing the U.S. Department of the Interior to study Rota as a potential site for a national park.

His Rota Cultural and Natural Resources Study Act, H.R. 4686, passed the U.S. House of Representatives in July.

Sablan's submerged lands bill, the first measure he introduced in Congress, is also awaiting Senate action.

H.R. 934 conveys the submerged lands around each of the Northern Marianas back to the people of the islands.

Republican House

Sablan said there will be changes in Washington, D.C. with Republicans regaining control of the U.S. House of Representatives.

He is currently caucusing with the Democrats in Congress but he said he has also made some good friends on the Republican part of the aisle, including some in leadership positions.

The delegate said the Republicans have their own agenda but if that includes repealing the healthcare reform legislation that gives the CNMI over \$150 million in Medicaid funding, then he will fight against that.

Sablan said he will not caucus with the Republicans but will work with them.

The former executive director of the Commonwealth Election Commission for 10 years said he will still live in a studio-type apartment in Washington, D.C.

"There's nothing in that apartment that's new except for the rice cooker and the coffee maker," he added.

On Fitial

Sablan reiterated that he had not gone home to the CNMI without meeting with Fitial since he began his term in Congress in January 2009. However, after the November 2009 gubernatorial runoff election, the governor has refused to meet with him again so he

has since been meeting with Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos instead.

The delegate supported Fitial's opponent in the runoff election: former House speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider of the Republican Party.

But Sablan said despite all this, he will always be willing to work with Fitial.

"And I will say this also. He's got some good ideas that I have carried to D.C. with me. But on those ideas that I think are self-serving and doesn't serve people's interest... I said no and I will say no again to that," he added.

He said he and Fitial serve the same constituents.

"If he wants to meet with me, he knows where I am, he knows where this office is. He wants something for me, he needs to tell me. But what is it? He wants something and I'm going up there?" he said.

When asked about the CNMI House of Representatives' passage of a bill legalizing marijuana use in the CNMI, he said he'd rather see the local legislature pass a bill banning shark finning and other legislation improving tourism.

On the election

Sablan said it was the early voting that concerned him but when the early voting ballots were counted and the difference in votes between him and Covenant Party's Joseph Camacho was not as much as they expected, he said he knew he had won the race.

He said he ran on his performance record, and was humbled by people's support for him despite what he said were misinformation about him and money offered to them.

"People were given money, they were given misinformation, but in the end they said 'no thanks'. That's the best part of this election... people said 'no thanks' to all of those different things and voted for their choice, freely voted for their choice," he said.

Sablan said he and his family were hurt by things threw at him during the election.

But he said his mother made him promise before the campaign started not to attack his opponents "like they did against me."

"And there were many times when I had to bite my tongue... It makes me very happy and because people were able to vote in the privacy of the booth and despite the fear and intimidation that they were feeling, they were going through, and in the end, the people won. This is a victory for the people," he said.

Now that the election is over, he said it will be back to work.

"We have lots of things to do for our people and our islands. Things will be tougher in Washington, but we will continue to work given the goodwill and friendships we've built over the past two years, trying to ensure the Commonwealth gets its fair share of federal assistance," he said.

Sablan said this is part of a health care reform law that resulted in \$158 million in Medicaid funding for the CNMI over the next 10 years. This is almost triple the current funding for the program that helps those with low income receive medical care.

From the current \$5 million annually, the CNMI will start receiving Medicaid funding of \$9 million every

year until it goes up to \$21.6 million in 2019.

Sablan's opponents earlier said it's better to have a Medicaid formula change than getting increased Medicaid funding, but Sablan said getting \$9 million on the first year and up to \$21 million in 2010, instead of \$5 million every year is still a better deal.

Salesman allegedly steals company's \$21K collection

A salesman with a gambling habit was arrested Tuesday afternoon for allegedly stealing \$21,732.65 in company funds that he had collected from customers.

Rolando Enriquez Pude, 43, was taken to the Superior Court Wednesday morning to face a charge of theft. Bail was set at \$25,000 cash. Preliminary hearing is on Nov. 9, at 9am.

Detective Jackson W. Jack stated in his report that a Genpro International Wholesale Co. accountant reported the theft to police on Oct. 2, 2010.

Jack said their investigation showed that Pude, a salesman of Genpro International, collected sales money from various companies but never turned in the collection.

The company called in Pude, who allegedly admitted that he collected a total of \$21,732.65 on different dates and used it for his personal needs.

When the company filed the complaint, Pude was also terminated from his job that same day.

Jack said that, on Oct. 22, 2010, the Genpro accountant went to the Criminal Investigation Bureau to follow up on the case.

The accountant told police that Pude, who had been working for the company for 13 years, was a trusted employee. Whenever Pude would pick up money from his sales, he was allowed not issue receipts to customers.

The company did not suspect anything until the accountant called one of the customers about their payment and learned that money had already been given to Pude.

Tracing back all of the sales, the accountant discovered several instances of cash shortages.

The accountant told police that Pude has a gambling habit—cock-fights and poker.

The accountant had lately learned that Pude had just sold one of his cars and suspected that he may be attempting to flee the island. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

MAN

From Page 1

The police have yet to release the victim's identity but sources told *Saipan Tribune* that the victim was known as Mr. Kim, a Chinese-Korean who stayed in Chinatown. He has either a brother or sister on Saipan.

The driver, a 55-year-old Bangladeshi national, was not injured. He was not arrested nor given citations.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Sgt. Thomas Blas Jr. earlier said that speed and alcohol have been ruled out on the part of the driver.

Blas said the pedestrian had a blood alcohol content of .213 percent. The legal BAC limit in the CNMI is .08 percent.

Blas said that police first received the call about the accident on Oct. 18 at 9:06pm. The accident occurred along Chalan Pale Arnold (Middle Road), near the Century Hotel.

At-scene investigation conducted by traffic officer Sandy Hambros showed that the victim had been struck by a northbound white 1993 Toyota Tercel on the inner northbound lane.

The pedestrian was crossing the road and heading east from the westbound shoulder.

Medics and traffic investigators were summoned to the scene. The pedestrian was treated at the scene and taken to the hospital.

The vehicle was impounded. It had damage to its lower left front wind-

shield.

Lino Tenorio Jr. earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that he was parking his car in front of the Century Hotel when he heard the sound of an impact. When he looked around, Tenorio said he saw the victim spinning on the road.

"I thought it's a box," said Tenorio, a former Corrections officer.

Tenorio said the driver stopped his car, then reversed, so he shouted at him not to leave the scene.

Tenorio said he also shouted at the employees of a nearby vegetable store to call the police.

Tenorio believed that the pedestrian had just come from the vegetable store and had crossed the road.

A Korean man was also hit by a vehicle on Oct. 2 as he was crossing the road in front of the Mom's Round Two Bar in Garapan. He died two days later. The pedestrian had a BAC of .213 percent, according to police.

In that case, traffic investigator Kwon also ruled out speed and alcohol on the part of the driver, a 19-year-old male.

VOTERS

From Page 1

which would have authorized the Department of Public Lands to reserve up to 20 percent of its operational expense for land compensation payments, was also rejected after only 42 percent voted yes—3,228—compared to those who disapproved it, totaling 4,472 or 58 percent.

Fund issues notice of possible reduction-in-force

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund has issued all its employees notices of a possible reduction-in-force—layoffs—within the agency's units and sections this fiscal year due to the deteriorating financial condition of the pension program that it administers.

The board of trustees disclosed this at its last meeting, describing the general notice as a "safe-guard" for the agency when the time comes for it to take immediate and drastic actions.

According to board chair Sixto Igisomar, the notice of reduction serves as an "advisory" to all its personnel about the real situation of the Fund and the pension system.

"We sent out these notices to all our employees because one of the things we're doing here is cut costs. So the trustees are looking at all possible angles where to reduce our costs to assist our pension program and its assets. In reviewing our financial standings, we also looked at the payroll side," he explained at the meeting.

Diabetes awareness forum in Kagman

This month, the Commonwealth Diabetes Coalition, Division of Public Health Diabetes Prevention and Control Program, and the Ayuda Network will launch the first of a series of six Diabetes Health Community Forums on Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010, at the Laulau Bay Golf Resort.

The forum, which will be held from 7am to 3pm, will target residents of I Denni, Papago, As Teo, and the entire Kagman peninsula community.

A similar forum will be held in five other key community districts throughout the Northern Marianas:

■ February 2011 for residents

He said the board's committee on personnel is currently reviewing personnel expenditures to see if this is still aligned with the Fund's missions and objectives.

"We're allocating cost for each function in the Fund and we want to make sure that we're in line with it. We're evaluating all the different units to see if they're operating properly or not. So just to go on a safe side...we decided to advise all our employees of what we are currently doing," he explained.

Igisomar said the notice of reduction will save the Fund when it needs to make "important, immediate, and necessary" decisions.

"So that we don't need to wait...if a decision is to be made," he added.

'Fund is not a toy'

At the same meeting, Igisomar reiterated the trustees' position on several pieces of legislation that have been introduced and passed by the Legislature without the Fund's opinion and concurrence being sought.

He instructed Fund administrator Richard Villagomez to re-em-

phasize with lawmakers that they cannot use the retirees' pension system in their desire to offer a solution to the economic problems of the Commonwealth.

"These two are separate...and they must leave the retirees' pension program alone. The Fund is not a toy...so they should stop playing with it. We, trustees are doing our best to keep this Fund and we will [oppose any] legislation that are not favorable and healthy for our retirees and members," he said.

Igisomar said whatever legislation is passed for the economy should be separate from the pension program.

"Don't use the Fund benefits to think that it is the solution to the problems of the CNMI," he added.

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Taitano is found not guilty of rape, two other charges

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

After deliberating for less than an hour, jurors handed down late Wednesday afternoon a not-guilty verdict on Paul H. Taitano on a charge that he raped his former common-law wife.

The six jurors, including former lieutenant governor Jesus Sablan, found Taitano not guilty

of sexual assault in the first degree (rape).

After the jury handed down its verdict, Superior Court associate judge Perry B. Inos also found Taitano not guilty of the remaining charge of disturbing the peace.

Before the jury's deliberation, Inos dismissed with prejudice the burglary charge after Taitano's counsel, Steve Nut-

ting, moved for its dismissal. Dismissal with prejudice means the case cannot be reopened anymore.

Inos found that the prosecution had failed to include essential elements of the crime of burglary in its charging information.

With the verdict and dismissal of the other charges, Inos ordered Taitano's immediate

release. He has been in custody for over five months while awaiting trial.

In his closing argument, Nutting went through the evidence presented during the trial, highlighting the testimony of the alleged victim.

Nutting noted that the alleged victim had admitted that, given the facts that were not in dispute surrounding that evening and the long history the couple shared, producing two children over the course of 11 years, Taitano did have reason to believe that she had consented to engaging in intercourse.

Nutting asked the jurors to ask themselves how they could possibly find, beyond a reasonable doubt, that Taitano did not have an honest and good faith belief that the alleged victim had consented, when she herself had testified that she thought he could have reasonably believed that fact.

Nutting told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that while he is very happy with the outcome of this case and the jurors decision, he is sad that Taitano was forced to sit in custody for over five

months while waiting to vindicate himself.

"It is also unfortunate that the taxpayers had the burden of paying for the defendant's incarceration, the service of summons on over 100 citizens of the Commonwealth for jury service, and all of the expenses of trial, including the salaries of two AAG's and a court-appointed attorney to defend the defendant," Nutting said.

Nevertheless, he thanked the jurors for their time and attention to the testimony.

"While this has been a horrible ordeal for both Mr. Taitano, and the alleged victim, I know that they are both pleased with the jury's decision and are pleased that he will be immediately released and coming home to his family," Nutting said.

Taitano allegedly broke into the alleged victim's house and raped her on May 26, 2010.

Nutting said it was a consensual sex and that, in fact, the alleged victim invited Taitano to come to her house that night.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from chief prosecutor Michael Ernest yesterday, but he had yet to respond as of press time.

Testy DEA, NMI govt relationship delays results of drug lab tests

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

With working relationships between the Drug Enforcement Administration and the CNMI government at an all-time low, the government is forced to depend on a new crime laboratory in Guam for tests on suspected methamphetamine or "ice," resulting in delays in obtaining test results.

This delay resulted in the dismissal without prejudice of "ice" trafficking charges against Yuhua Wang and Le Xiang Chen, according to Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja.

Dismissal without prejudice means the prosecution can reopen the case in the future.

Naraja said the delay in turning over the lab evidence to the suspects came about largely because of the government's inability to obtain test results for the substance.

The DEA formerly conducted all drug tests for the CNMI government.

"This [DEA-CNMI government] relationship has recently deteriorated and the government has had to contract with a new laboratory to perform its drug testing," he said.

Naraja said the substances involved in Wang's and Chen's case have now been delivered to the crime lab and is currently undergoing testing for methamphetamine.

"Given that the Commonwealth does not have its own crime lab and that it must depend on the new testing laboratory, which is located in Guam, the delay in providing the test results in this case does not appear to be intentional," Naraja said.

The government's failure to give the suspects the results of the lab analysis on the alleged controlled substance prompted the two through their lawyers to move to dismiss the case and impose sanctions on the government.

Naraja granted the motion to dismiss the case, but denied the request to sanction the government.

Wang is the same store employee who had demanded the return of his property that were seized by police, including three laptops and a crystal ornament that were allegedly among those confiscated but not listed on police receipts. Police denied having the laptops and the crystal ornament in custody.

Naraja ordered directed the government to return most of the property that Wang claimed the police had seized. He placed under advisement the request for the release of the three laptops and the crystal ornament.



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Fitial vetoes bill that seeks to provide unlimited number of sick leave hours

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has vetoed a bill that sought to amend the sick leave regulations, saying that allowing an unlimited number of sick leave hours is "unreasonable," likely to result in abuse, and will increase government expenses.

Fitial, in his veto message, said the intent of Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro's (Cov-Saipan) House Bill 17-12, House Substitute 1 is not to limit the number of sick leave hours. It currently stands at 160 hours.

"The likelihood of abuse of this proposed amendment is high and is not recommended. To further allow an unlimited number of sick leave hours are unreasonable and will result in increased expenses for the government," Fitial said in his Oct. 25 message to House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) and Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota).

The governor said in light of the most current government shutdown, budgetary constraints have hindered government operations and have imposed constraints on the general fund.

Nevertheless, the government's current benefit package is quite generous and the current

system as it is set up has been working sufficiently.

These benefits include annual leave, sick leave, advance sick leave, advance annual leave, sick leave bank, family sick leave, and the Family Medical Sick Leave Act.

"These benefits are currently available to government employees whether they are civil service or excepted service contract employees," the governor said.

Ogumoro, in introducing the bill, said employees have been restricted in using sick leave hours which have been donated by other employees for their benefit.

These restrictions have been imposed by regulations adopted by the Civil Service Commission in the implementation of the Sick Leave Act. Ogumoro, in her bill, said the intent of the Sick Leave Act was not to limit the use of sick leave hours donated for the use of a particular employee.

"Since the Civil Service Commission board has not had a sufficient number of members to take action, it is appropriate for the Legislature to amend the

Sick Leave Regulations to accomplish the intent of the Legislature," she said.

One of the provisions amended by the bill is on a designated account available only to the eligible employee designated by the contributor.

"If the designated employee does not use the hours contributed to his or her designated account within four pay periods of the contribution, the remaining hours will be returned to the contributor," the bill says.

It also says that withdrawal of sick leave bank hours for extended sick leave is a privilege, not a right.

"There is no limit on the amount of hours which can be withdrawn from a designated account. No employee may withdraw any hours from the sick leave bank, general account, if he or she has already withdrawn one hundred sixty hours from the general account. However, if the employee has returned to the bank some or all of those hours, as provided in part 300, he or she may withdraw additional hours up to the amount returned," HB 17-12, HS1 says.

It also proposes that hours withdrawn from a designated account are not counted in determining whether the employee has reached the 160-hour limit.



Fitial



HARDT EYE CLINIC

November is American Diabetes Month

Please take a moment to take this simple quiz in recognition of American Diabetes Month.

QUESTION

#1 True or False

1. Having diabetes isn't really a serious problem.

**False: "Diabetes causes more deaths every year than breast cancer and AIDS combined. Two out of three people with diabetes die from heart disease or stroke."*

***Source:** American Diabetes Association

Why is there only one question on this quiz—do you really need any more?

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Marine convicted of killing officer has death sentence reduced to life in prison

By TONY PERRY
LOS ANGELES TIMES

SAN DIEGO—A Marine sentenced to die for killing an officer at Camp Pendleton in 1996 has had his sentence reduced to life in prison with the possibility of parole, Marine officials said Tuesday.

Jessie A. Quintanilla has been in various military brigs, prisons and hospitals since being convicted of murder in the fatal shooting of Lt. Col. Daniel Kidd and attempted murder in the shooting of Lt. Col. Thomas Heffner.

The incident took place at the Marine Air Logistics Squadron 39 space at Camp Pendleton on March 5, 1996.

Quintanilla, who was a supply sergeant, shot Kidd, the squadron's executive officer, at point blank range and then wounded Heffner, the squadron commander.

According to testimony at his court-martial, Quintanilla was drunk at the time of the shooting, beset by family and financial problems, and angry at a poor job evaluation and being denied a spot as a recruiter.

Quintanilla surrendered within minutes of the shooting, telling other Marines, "I did it for the brotherhood and the brown side. This is only the beginning. We have a hit list." He had several tattoos associated with street gangs.

Quintanilla, a native of Guam who grew up in Long Beach, was convicted and sentenced to death by a court-martial jury of seven officers and five enlisted.

Until his resentencing, he had been one of nine military personnel awaiting execution, most of them at the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. The last Marine execution was in 1817.

In 2006, a military appeals court set aside the death penalty decision and sent the case back to Camp Pendleton for a new sentencing hearing. The appeals court ruled that the trial judge had acted improperly when he allowed the prosecution to eliminate from the jury pool

an enlisted Marine because of an allegedly inflexible attitude against capital punishment.

But the sentencing hearing was delayed when Quintanilla was found by military doctors to be a paranoid schizophrenic and unable to assist in his own defense.

After treatment and medication, Quintanilla, now 42, was found competent. The new sentencing was an agreement between prosecutors, defense attorneys and the air-wing commanding officer. In exchange for lifting the death penalty, Quintanilla waived his right to further appeals of his conviction.

As part of his conviction, Quintanilla was reduced in rank to private. The resentencing took place Sept. 9 and was announced Tuesday by the Marine Corps.



MARPI CLEANUP

Members of the Japanese Society of the CNMI pose for a group photo after their recent cleanup at the Japanese monument in Marpi. About 20 Society members joined the annual event. CUC executive director Abe Utu Malae and his staff also joined the cleanup, which began at 9am and lasted for an hour. A total of 18 trash bags were filled.

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Flashback
A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 5, 1999

'Non-essential items' in 2000 budget face Senate ax
Citing the need to cut spending on non-essential services, the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee is expected to keep a close watch over government expenditures proposed under FY 2000 budget in an effort to increase funding for scholarship and medical referral programs. Its chair, Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes, said he would thoroughly check the items in the spending package submitted by the administration in order to eliminate those that are not critical in the delivery of public services. These will include acquisition and upgrading of computer hardware, housing allowance of government employees, office lease and rental payment, among others.

Tinian Democrat officials accused of political coercion
The Tinian Republican Party yesterday accused Democrat Mayor Francisco Borja of coercing the municipal employees into voting for Democrats, particularly incumbent Sen. David Cing who is being challenged by Republican Jose Ada Hocog. Elias M. Borja, president of Tinian Republican Party, has filed a complaint with the Office of the Public Auditor, Board of Elections and the Attorney General's office, asking that the Tinian Mayor's Office be refrained from "coercing and intimidating government employees to vote under the threat or fear of [losing] their employment." Elias Borja alleged that Mayor Borja, a staunch supporter of Cing, held a meeting at his residence last Wednesday "at the pretext of commemorating the mayor's second year in office."

Nov. 5, 2001

Fund, Torres disagree on calculations
The proposed settlement agreement between the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund and former administrator Juan S. Torres has hit a minor snag over annuity calculations and the issue of whether or not Torres is entitled to the 30-percent early retirement bonus. Fund legal counsel Kathleen Troy-Rucker said that when the Fund's Board of Trustees agreed to grant Torres the two-year work credit that would make it appear that he served his term until the end of his contract, it was on the assumption that his annuity calculation would be based on the salary he was receiving during his termination and not on the salary he would have received if he finished his contract. Apparently, the latter was the assumption made by Torres's legal counsel, Michael Dotts, during the initial stage of the negotiation.

Teno details grim economic scenario
After being shelved due to the September 11 terrorist attacks, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has finally released the 2000 State of the Commonwealth Report—a 133-page report that touches on the grim realities of falling revenues but also spotlights minor and major victories achieved by the administration in 2000. In his transmittal letter to legislative leaders, Tenorio said that the Commonwealth achieved some progress last year, despite the economic challenges it is faced with. "Our challenges still exist and economic forecasts predict continued regional economic difficulties," he said. Tenorio particularly took pride in his administration's modest success in taming the fiscal deficit—a raging \$80 million in 1998, which is now pegged at a more manageable \$64 million.

Nov. 5, 2002

No pay hike for NMC faculty
For seven years now, faculty members of the Northern Marianas College have not received any salary increase from the Legislature-approved budget. Bruce Johnson, NMC associate dean for Academic Programs, said this, even as he expressed admiration for the professionalism NMC instructors have shown over the years. "I'm continually surprised and proud of the instructors for the professionalism they put into the work day after day, especially since they've not gotten any increase for several years. There has not been an adjustment to the salary schedule in over seven years," he said in a recent interview. He clarified, though, that annual increments were made once in a while, but these were initiated by the NMC board.

Rota needs \$30M for utility services
Rota needs some \$30 million funding to be able to provide adequate utility services on the island, according to Commonwealth Utilities Corporation deputy executive director Charles A. Manglona. "We need \$20-30 million for utility services. It's for the infrastructure—installation of power distribution systems, water connection and the sewer lines," Manglona said in a recent interview. He said several capital improvement projects remain pending.

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Opinion

Dong Bei Trek 2: Our journey to the Northeast

Saipan Tribune

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Who we celebrate on Veterans Day

By JIMMIE L. FOSTER

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jimmie L. Foster of Anchorage, Alaska is national commander of the 2.4-million member American Legion, the nation's largest veterans service organization. For more information, go to www.legion.org



On Nov. 11, our country will honor its veterans as it does every year, with parades, ceremonies, speeches and patriotic music. Schools will welcome us into their classrooms and ask us to tell our stories, and everywhere we go young and old alike will clasp our hands and say, "Thank you for serving." We are blessed to live in a grateful nation.

We also live in an incredibly diverse nation. Our veteran population—just over 23 million and counting—reflects that. As Americans seek out those in their communities who wore the uniform to recognize them this Veterans Day, they'll find that women and minorities are serving in the military in greater numbers than ever before.

According to the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, about 2,600,000 living U.S. veterans—11 percent—are black. Another 1,824,000—8 percent—are women. Smaller percentages include Hispanics (5.8 percent), Asian/Pacific Islanders (1.5 percent) American Indian/Alaska natives (0.8 percent) and "other" (1.3 percent). These numbers are always changing, but together, they're about 29 percent of America's veterans, or about 6,700,000. We're no longer Sgt. Rock's army.

Addressing The American Legion's 92nd National Convention in Milwaukee, I expressed my desire to see more of this diversity in our own ranks—not because our organization is a promoter of diversity for diversity's sake, but because from its inception, the Legion has always maintained that a veteran is a veteran. From Frank Buckles, the last living World War I veteran, to Dawn Halfaker, who lost an arm in combat during Operation Iraqi Freedom and now serves on The American Legion's Small Business Task Force, we all share a common bond, regardless of our gender or race.

This is not a new development. Women were welcomed into the Legion before they had the right to vote in the United States. One of our founders, Hamilton Fish, is probably best known as the commander of the first all-black U.S. combat unit shipped overseas in World War I—the Harlem Hellfighters, who in 191 days of duty at the front didn't have any men captured or ground lost. Two of the country's most prominent civil-rights voices, Earl Dickerson and Corneal Davis, were among the first black veterans to join the newly formed American Legion and organize posts for black soldiers.

If you honorably served our country during wartime, you have a home in the Legion, period. We know, and cherish, a camaraderie rarely found elsewhere in society—a camaraderie that is colorblind and, increasingly, genderblind. The oath we swore was the same. The commitment we made; the discipline we endured; the joy and pride we felt serving something greater than ourselves.

On this Veterans Day, let us thank God for the gift of freedom made possible by those who served our nation with honor, courage and commitment in our armed forces during all wars that enabled so many of them to earn that coveted title of an "American veteran."

We are unabashed in our borrowing Hermann Hesse's title to his classic spirit account, *The Journey to the East*. Our journey was headed toward the mystique of Baitou, the mythical source of origins for both the Manchus (China's Qing dynasty) of Manchuria and the Chosun (Jeoson dynasty) of Korea.

Changbaishan is the mountain range in Yanbian between China and North Korea. Its relatively pristine Baitou caldera, the *Lake of Heaven* some 2,000 meters above sea level and 300 meters deep, is unexplored territory and the destination of our spirit journey. After mentioning it in one of our columns early this year when we first forayed into this territory of Korea in China, we got a response from a Korean information officer correcting our use of the Chinese name and reminding us that elsewhere, it is called Baekdu Mountains. He was right, of course, but we were also writing from the Chinese side, so we used the common Manchurian name. For the officer not to call our attention again, we will henceforth use the old Pinyin name *Baitou*.

For Tribune readers, Angelo Villagomez's front page picture of the Maug caldera with the *Lady Catalina* afloat printed after the an-

A summer photo of the Baitou caldera, *Changbaishan tianchi*, the heavenly lake of the White Cloud or Ever White Mountain; inset is the map of China that looks like a chicken with its head as the northeast—*Dong Bei*, the old *Manchuria*, with Jilin Province light shade, and the Yanbian Korean Autonomous Ethnic Prefecture where the Changbaishan range is located.

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



nounced publication of the collaborative account, *Our Northern Islands*, with Dennis Chan, if lifted 2,000 meters higher, would look not unlike that of the Baitou caldera. We print a photo from the Internet with this article, to show an image of the caldera we expected to visit.

Yangi is the capital city of Yanbian where the international airport is located. We sought the assistance of a tour agency to negotiate passage to Changbaishan and they were reluctant to make arrangements as we were three weeks past the regular trekking season. A friendly tour guide eager to practice his English generously offered advice. The quoted tour price was for two pax, higher singly. A daily bus goes to Erdao Baihe early in the morning, the town closest to the caldera, and one can arrange for local transport to the UNESCO-declared natural reserve 20 miles away. Then catch the evening Baihe train for Yangi and be in bed by midnight.

Simple enough, I thought. I grabbed a Yanbian map so I can point to the location of where I was headed to the bus driver and conductor, and to a local taxi that will drive one up the mountain for about 10 bucks. We hit the sack early and asked the landlady to knock at our door before sunrise. The bus left at 7am.

They do not call Korea the land of the morning calm for nothing, and though we are in China, the Korean aura in the region gives one the feeling of being with the *Hanggul Saram* in the peninsula. The conductress was quick enough to pick up *Firipinren* (Filipino) who is a *Meiguoren* (American) when I pointed to the map wanting to be let off Erdao Baihe.

It was meant to be a short three-hour ride but the bus got full quickly and the frequent stops slowed down the trip. Meanwhile, I heard the conductress refer to me as *Firipinren* to passengers (I

swear, she knew everyone) so I knew she had not forgotten me. When I next asked when I could get off the bus, she asked me to wait and 15 minutes later, she pointed me to a restaurant where I could use the restroom. I should have alighted then for that was my stop as well but I got the impression we would stop at a bus station.

It was 30 minutes later when we hit a dirt road that I realized we might have had a failure to communicate, but since I did not wish to be let out in the middle of nowhere, I went along for the ride. Besides, the local clientele had begun packing the aisle and though I did get an occasional smile from the conductress indicating that I was still in her radar, it did not result in my getting off the right destination.

The winding road was reminiscent of Appalachia and it was another two hours before we hit another settlement with more than one street. By then, I knew I was lost but did not care. Sure enough, it was the end of the line in the city of Fusong. It was the hour past midday. I missed my stop by three hours.

Happily, there was an office that advertised handling of visas to foreign countries across the bus stop and the manager was just eager to use her university polished English. She suggested that unless I wanted to spend the night in Fusong, I could get a taxi to the train station and catch the Erdao Baihe train in the evening; trek to the caldera at sunrise and have a glorious morning calm experience.

Baitou peaks at 2,700 meters. That would have been quite a transcendent perspective. But I did not make it to the peak, not even to the lake. I did have an awesome lifetime experience in the small Appalachian town-like rail station of Xianrenqiao. The hotel catered to transients, a buck-and-a-half for a heated blanket and shared Asian

See DONG BEI on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Lavish money and my drool bib

It must be a slow news week, since the entire world is yakking itself silly over this week's U.S. elections. As regards the Commonwealth, one concern I've heard is whether U.S. political changes might cause our generous Uncle Sam to cut back on his handouts to the islands. So, what of it?

I see nothing to worry about on that front, for three reasons, and subject to one condition.

I'll name the condition first: If and when the toxic debt crisis wipes out Uncle Sam's economy, all bets are off. Not even Uncle Sam can give us money he doesn't have. So we have to view the following stuff based on a pre-wipeout scenario.

Anyway, for our first reason, let's invoke Newton's first law. I'm talking inertia, baby. Uncle Sam has a long history of supporting the Commonwealth, so there's no reason to think that this body in motion is going to make an abrupt change spontaneously. The CNMI's various budget items in the federal realm are part of the established situation, and even part of the U.S. government structure. In other words, the more things remain the same, the more they remain the same.

Secondly, as the Mariana Islands soar higher and higher on the "strategic" list, Uncle Sam has more and more incentive to pay whatever it costs to keep the CNMI from collapsing into smoldering economic distress. Indeed, the U.S. is caught in a trap on this note; the more money it pours into the islands, the more corruption there is in the CNMI government, and the more corruption there is, the less business activity there is, and the less business activity there is, the more money the U.S. has to pour into the islands to keep things afloat.

Unfortunately, with every turn of that cycle, Uncle Sam gets less

and less bang for the buck. There are remedies for that, which is actually good news for the Commonwealth business community, but that's too much of a tangent to take today.

And there's a third factor here, which is going to make some of my pals in the U.S. call me a dingbat. Despite all the drama, the elections in the U.S. probably won't have much of an effect on the U.S. fiscal and budget situation; things politically didn't really change that dramatically. So, here again, I see no reason for the CNMI to think that its financial goodies will be willfully cut, at least substantially, as a result of the election.

Again, note that "willfully." So I'm done with Saipan's situation for now, I have to shift focus to the bigger picture. We're back to my opening condition, and it deserves headlines, not footnotes. Like I said, Uncle Sam can't give us what he doesn't have, but, more to the point, he can't give us what he can't borrow.

The debt, fiscal, and entitlement situation in the U.S. is dire. I mean screamingly, terrifyingly, zombie-movie, horrific nightmare, history-in-the-making dire. Want some scale? Uncle Sam's obligations may outweigh his wallet by as much as \$200 trillion by one estimate. Yes, \$200 trillion. More on this another day, in more depth. Still, never mind elections, the problem is simply bigger than Congress. Heck, I doubt most congressmen can even write \$200 trillion in numerical format. I darned sure know their constituents can't. As for most of you reading this column, your calculators don't have enough digits for the number, and I mean that seriously, not as some Gonzo hyperbole.

Since I'm on a tear here, I'll note that as this column goes to press, it appears that the Federal Reserve Bank is about to start pumping

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at TropicalEd.com. Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday.



\$600 billion more in debt-based liquidity into the economy.

I don't know how the U.S. dollar can survive this. I don't know how the bond market can survive this.

Heck, at this point, I don't know how I can survive this. Because I suspect that aliens have secretly abducted me and sent me to a parallel universe. I just had coffee with a U.S. economist, a professor of macroeconomics no less, who sees no problem at all, he thinks things are "turning the corner." He's in good company. The current issue of Barron's financial weekly touts, on the cover, the results of a poll of important pros: "Bye-Bye, Bear...the U.S. economy will keep growing steadily."

Say what? Scotty, beam me up! I'm in a mathematical wormhole, where nothing adds up. And send me more oxygen. Aw, heck, forget the oxygen, send me some raw nitrous oxide and a drool bib.

Hoping to return to my normal universe, I'll grab a space pen to scribe a note to the Commonwealth: The good news is that Uncle Sam's generosity will remain lavish until Uncle Sam goes broke. The bad news is the same thing.

Letters to the Editor

Marijuana legalization: The House investment

It is ironic that when a majority of our community is celebrating the election results and their landslide victory in securing Delegate Sablan's status as the representative of the CNMI people, our own House of Representatives is turning to illegal drugs as a form of revenue generation and stimulation of the economy!

What seems absolutely clear to me is that majority of the community knows where they are heading (with Kilili), the people are aware of the dirty "politricks" and have cunningly taken advantage of them (gas vouchers), and that the House is an ignorant minority, wishfully yearning a drag on the presently illegal marijuana (drug users in Legislature?). All should volunteer for a drug test tomorrow, especially those supporting such legislation. No wonder you are all tripping on us.

It is unfortunate we have to live with elected leaders' ignorance and blatant disregard of the community, especially in terms of priorities. You were all elected to be there for good reasons, not to make illegal activity legal through your nonsense legislations. Had any of you campaigned to legalize marijuana when you were still attempting to secure a seat up there, maybe it would not have come to this point where your arrogance has blinded your perception and true purpose in office.

Why don't you look up your platforms during campaigning and refresh your memories because it seems you are all losing your

sense of direction, ethics and purpose? Our economy is a failure, no arguing that. You have all contributed to taking 16 or more hours from our pay but now Rep. Stanley wants to include poisoning us by legalizing smoking dope.

Forget all the federal funds we will be losing. He says it is fine as long as you are 21 years, do not bring it to school grounds and do not use it in the presence of minors. Thanks for thinking of our education system and our young ones! I guess that does make all those who voted yes a better person than if you had not included those clauses in the legislation. Even tobacco is not allowed on school ground either. Is that strictly enforced? Ask the students. Every time you attend a party, campaign, or social gathering, do you tell the children not to come around because there is alcohol being consumed or do you tell the children to bring one more beer? Do all our children under the age of 21 refrain from purchasing and drinking alcohol or using tobacco? Do I even have to ask? And now you expect everyone to abide to your marijuana legislation just so you can attempt to generate revenue for the CNMI!

Marijuana diminishes our capabilities, impairs our judgment, and destroys irreplaceable brain cells—and that has been scientifically proven. How much revenue will the CNMI be likely to generate according to your scientific study? How much will a business license cost to cultivate and sell marijuana? Or does it just fall into the

tobacco category now? Publish what your research revealed and it better indicate an amount of revenue that makes us all economically and financially stable, able, and out of debt (including the government and the Retirement Fund).

I hope none of you have plans to pre-arrange an Invitation To Bid or pre-award a sole source contract to a single qualified and competent nonexistent business to do all the cultivation in the CNMI for control purposes. That would be a second! Unfortunately, I can't say "first" because the crime has occurred already.

All that said, I am looking forward to a response and explanation, especially from Honorable Stanley but please refrain from inviting me to join you up there in coming up with plans and ideas to improve our crisis. I was not voted there; you all were. Anyway, my ideas and plans would be wasted because I surely will not agree just because of a majority ruling or for a return-vote favor or particularly for a bribe and so the majority will never support me or my ideas. Try being the leaders that you are instead of being Ben's followers and do not just follow, especially when you can see that the majority is simply jumping off the cliff like distracted, ignorant goats, scared of who-knows-what.

Karla C. Mareham

Chalan Kanoa 3, Saipan

Nonperforming assets

I know that you and most of your readers would agree that it makes sense to require the incumbent of a position full performance of his/her assigned duties, responsibilities, and constituted authorities during the active term of the position. A position derives its job contents from a position description, in accordance with the lawful and authorized job specification that established the precise definition of such position. When the position description is consistent with the established job specification, the full job contents to be performed by an incumbent is justified.

If "deficit spending" is such a bad accounting result, why is it that we are not tying this standard to positions utilized by the CNMI government as a way to avoid deficit spending or unbalanced accounting of revenues and expenses? Hence, accounting of revenues and expenses is performed by a controller, fiscal officer, finance director and similarly situated positions that absorb these type of duties, responsibilities and authorities within the functional organizational structure in the CNMI government. When the incumbent

does not perform, that should be a cause of action to remove the person from the position for failure to perform. In this example, a deficit spending or when expenses is greater than the revenue, there is no reason that the incumbent should continue holding the position when the expected job performance results are not met. The best penalty to impose on any incumbent for job failure is removal from the position. A monetary sanction is not necessary as removal will include all the above.

On another similar issue, the CNMI government could avoid spending any U.S. taxpayers' money for future "desk audits" of positions by requiring all its human resource director, manager, personnel officer or closely related positions to handle these type of duties, responsibilities or job contents. There is good reason that conducting "desk audits" could be pursued by the CNMI government because it has the capacities and resources found in positions it is presently paying for and could be put to proper utilization. How this could be organized and put to good prac-

tice is by way of taking into account the job specifications that these positions are established for and defined by, then the rest is describing in accurate terms what the position descriptions should be which will have as a major job content the study and performance of "desk audits." Positions are available for these needs of the CNMI government, all that needs to be done is by invoking the creative and capable talents of incumbents who are the resources for these undertaken. Desk audit is a basic function of public personnel administration. I am not too sure why we tend to make this matter an argument when the government could improve by taking advantage of what it already has and paying for. To disregard this important tenet of public personnel administration is like flushing the toilet often in the midst of water outage condition.

Francisco R. Agulto

Chalan Kanoa 2, Saipan

DONG BEI

From Page 10

squat toilet (four stalls, two each per gender).

Communal bath was down the street for \$3 and one got a back rub and a 15-minute massage for the price.

It was 9pm when the train to Erdao Baihe was to arrive, and after my wonton soup, I

looked out the window. It was mas. Snow had fallen so fast the conifers, oaks, birches, maples and other deciduous trees on the slopes that flanked the town from all sides all drooped with white fluffy snow. I may not

have glimpsed the glassy crystal waters of the heavenly lake, but I was in heaven, nonetheless. I decided to stay the night, and in this remote town in Changbaishan, silent night and holy night became graciously incarnate.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 75°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 88 ▼ 80
Palau	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Rain	▲ 79 ▼ 75
Pohnpei	Rain	▲ 83 ▼ 73
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Majuro	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 75

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲ 64 ▼ 55
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 67 ▼ 40
Hong Kong	Showers	▲ 72 ▼ 59
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 74
London	Showers	▲ 59 ▼ 52
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 89 ▼ 60
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 80
Melbourne	Sunny	▲ 71 ▼ 52
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 83 ▼ 69
New York	Rain	▲ 51 ▼ 44
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 54
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 58 ▼ 51
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 65 ▼ 53
Rome	Sunny	▲ 73 ▼ 52
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 67 ▼ 50
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲ 79 ▼ 59
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 64 ▼ 47
Tokyo	Sunny	▲ 64 ▼ 52
Washington, DC	Rain	▲ 53 ▼ 46

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:14 AM	5:47 PM	Today	4:55 AM	4:47 PM
12:31 AM	Today	Low Tide: 0.2 Feet	Saturday	6:15 AM	5:46 PM
7:02 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.9 Feet	Saturday	5:57 AM	5:39 PM
12:40 PM	Today	Low Tide: 0.9 Feet	Sunday	6:59 AM	6:33 PM
6:08 PM	Today	High Tide: 2.1 Feet	Monday	8:00 AM	7:30 PM
			Tuesday	8:58 AM	8:27 PM

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■ ISLAND SNAPSHOT Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

■ ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

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Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2010

DEPARTURES			ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM			GUAM-SAIPAN				
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily	DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:00pm	12:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
OZ604	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ605	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ606	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
OZ604/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ704/605	12:10am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7				via ICN
C09317/891	2:45am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	DL172/286	7:55am	8:25pm	Daily via NRT
DL285/173	6:40am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT	C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
C09313/893	7:55am	10:10pm	3 via GUM-Palau	DL285/173	1:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4,				

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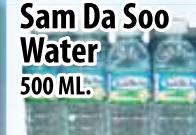
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Tinian seeks to map out 5-year dev't plan

Tinian Mayor Ray Dela Cruz announced yesterday the creation of a new task force to draft a five-year economic development plan for the island.

"As a result of the Record of Decision, the military buildup on Tinian is now an assured thing. That makes it imperative for Tinian to properly plan for its future. Therefore, I am calling together a variety of people from the Tinian community, from both the public and private sectors, to begin the drafting

process," Dela Cruz said.

The Record of Decision, signed this Sept. 20, mandates that the U.S. Navy build four rifle ranges on Tinian for the 8,000 Marines who will be stationed in Guam, as well as other federal agencies that might want to use the ranges once they are built.

U.S. Navy and Marine Corps planners have also made it clear that they have larger plans for Tinian. Brian Wood, chief planner for the U.S. Marine Corps, speaking at the Center for Mi-

cronesian Empowerment Conference, stated that they are creating a "50-year plan for the Marines in the Marianas."

"With this in mind," said Dela Cruz, "Tinian must either plan for its own future, or allow the Navy to do it for us. I believe in being proactive."

Dela Cruz acknowledged that this will be only a draft plan. "After we have listened to the desires of the people of Tinian about how they want their island to develop, we will begin

to bring in the experts who will help refine the plan. I believe there are federal funding sources that will help us do this."

"I am calling it a "Living Plan for the Future of Tinian," added Dela Cruz, "because we must be able to adapt, innovate and make changes to the plan as the situation changes over the next few years. Although the CNMI economy is in a general state of decline, we plan to help the gaming industry, the tourism industry and other revenue-generating in-

dustries on Tinian grow side-by-side with our new Marine Corps neighbors. We are also hopeful that the leadership on Saipan will recognize the potential that Tinian holds for revitalizing the entire economy of the CNMI. Nevertheless, with or without support from Saipan, the Municipality of Tinian and Aguijan must and will develop."

The mayor has called the first meeting of his economic development task force for Friday, Nov. 12, 2010. (PR)

Five establishments shut down in Sept., Oct.

The Bureau of Environmental Health closed down five establishments in September and October due to serious violations of health and sanitations standards.

In September, the bureau shut down a moped/motorbike stall, Juvy's Catering in Koblerville, and LaVida Catering in Garapan.

JG Sablan Water & Ice in Garapan was closed down on Oct. 6 but it re-opened on Oct. 8 after addressing the bureau's concerns. Our Daily Bread Bakery in San Jose was closed down on Oct. 19.

The sanitary inspections also

yielded the following grades for other establishments:

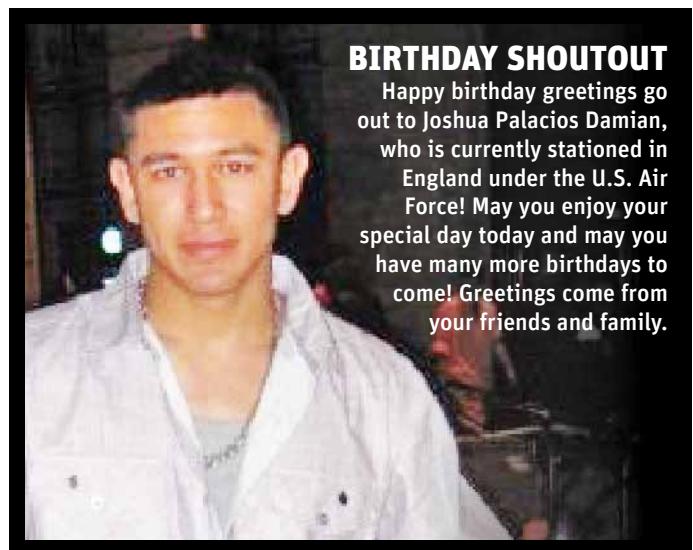
GRADE A: Blooming Food, Chalan Laulau; Omais Fish Market, China Town; Coral Ocean Point (outlets), Koblerville; EZ Mart, Gualo Rai; New XO Market, Gualo Rai; M&D BBQ Stand, San Antonio; Fina Sisu Market, Fina Sisu; Tai Yang Restaurant, Chalan Lau Lau; ABCD II Market, Koblerville; Islander Mini Mart, Chalan Kanoa; Siloam 7 Market, San Antonio; JL Market, Susupe; SPN Ice Manufacture, Lowe Base; WJC Fish Stand, Koblerville

GRADE B: Twins Supermarket, Dandan; Assa Karaoke, Chalan Kanoa; Hot Curry Restaurant, Garapan; and Chicken Zoom, Chalan Kanoa

GRADE C: Pl's Ice & Water Manufacture, Kagman. (BEH)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Joshua Palacios Damian, who is currently stationed in England under the U.S. Air Force! May you enjoy your special day today and may you have many more birthdays to come! Greetings come from your friends and family.



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Marianas Eye Institute welcomes new specialist

Marianas Eye Institute announced yesterday the addition of Dr. William Gilmer to its staff, as Dr. David Khorram prepares to return to the U.S. mainland with his family.

Dr. Gilmer is an ophthalmologist, a medical doctor with

additional training in all aspects of eye care including optical, medical and surgical. Gilmer has also completed subspecialty training in the field of cornea.

"We are pleased to have a doctor of such high qualifications join our staff," said Khorram.

He said he and his family will move to the U.S. to pursue educational opportunities.

Gilmer earned his medical degree from the Georgetown University School of Medicine. He completed his ophthalmology training at New York Medi-

cal College and served as chief resident during his final year.

In July 2010 he completed a Cornea and External Disease Fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco. He is the first corneal specialist in the region and will be providing subspecialty services in this complex field to patients in the CNMI and Guam.

Gilmer has published scientific articles in prestigious medical journals and participated in research presented at conferences around the world.

"Dr. Gilmer brings great clinical skills and extensive research background to Marianas Eye Institute," said Khorram.

Outside his work, Gilmer enjoys golf, reading, soccer, and surfing.

"I feel very lucky to be here. The community has been very welcoming and the staff at Marianas Eye Institute have been such a pleasure to meet and work with," said Gilmer. "They

have already given me two welcome parties and a birthday cake!"

Marianas Eye Institute is located on Beach Road in Ga-

pan across 13 Fishermen Monument. It is open Monday through Saturday, 8am to 5pm. Appointments are available at 235-9090. (PR)

First Friday Films presents 'Blue Gold'

Today, Nov. 5, "First Friday Films" at the American Memorial Park will present *Blue Gold: World Water Wars*, a film about the conflicts arising from the world's dwindling freshwater supply.

Screening will be held at the Visitors Center at 6:30pm. *Blue Gold: World Water Wars*, directed by Sam Bozzo, conceives how a seemingly plentiful natural resource, water, could spur wars. The film examines how large corporations and private investors are buying territories where there are abundant supplies of water, and what everyday citizens can do to collect and conserve water.

Blue Gold makes a strong case for community awareness and action. It also highlights some success stories of water activists around the globe.

After the screening, Derek Chambers of the Division of Environmental Quality, will discuss where tap and drinking water come from on Saipan and highlight ways the community can become better stewards of this precious resource.

The Visitor's Center lobby will also feature an exhibit about the declining supply of global freshwater and ways everyone can help conserve it.

For planning purposes, the movie runs about 90 minutes long. "First Friday Films" is free and open to the public. Find more information at www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com. (PR)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

9 Saipan beach sites red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged beaches located at the Central Repair Shop, DPW Channel Bridge, south Puerto Rico dump, Outer Cove Marina, Hyatt Regency, Garapan Fishing Dock, Saipan Grand, Chalan Kanoa District 2 beach, and Chalan Kanoa District 4 beach and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

DEQ said that samples col-

lected from these locations had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. Water samples were taken from 38 locations on Saipan coast this Wednesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

Little League membership meeting set

This is to inform all Saipan Little League Baseball Inc. board

members, managers, coaches, and umpires that there will be a general membership meeting tomorrow, Nov. 6, 2010, at the Ada Gym conference room at 9am. (PR)

Oleai Elementary PTSA meeting

The PTSA officers of Oleai Elementary School would like to inform the parents and guardians of Oleai Elementary School students that there will be PTSA meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2010, 6pm, in the school cafeteria. Everyone is encouraged to attend. (PR)

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"Our employees are very important because one person cannot run a successful hotel," said Nishikawa.

The Hyatt brand is also recognized internationally for its unique philosophy on people, service, and values. Hyatt Regency Saipan boasts of three pioneer employees who have been committed in providing authentic hospitality to its guests since the beginning. The hotel is also featuring a 30th Anniversary Commemorative Photo Gallery throughout its anniversary season that the public can enjoy.

Thirty years later, it is definitely fitting to celebrate the warm environment of this hotel with a grand cocktail event marking its anniversary, to be hosted by Nick Nishikawa, the hotel's general manager. The invite-only event is expected to cater to about 200 guests sharing this very memorable milestone in CNMI's tourism industry. The hotel is also giving homage to its employees putting forth loyalty and dedication in providing authentic hospitality all throughout its 30 years of business.

Hyatt Regency Saipan is known for providing extensive training and promoting person-



nel growth and development.

"Our employees are very important because one person cannot run a successful hotel," said Nishikawa.

The Hyatt brand is also recognized internationally for its unique philosophy on people, service, and values. Hyatt Regency Saipan boasts of three pioneer employees who have been committed in providing authentic hospitality to its guests since the beginning. The company's subsidiaries manage, franchise, own and develop hotels and resorts under the Hyatt®, Park Hyatt®, Andaz®, Grand Hyatt®, Hyatt Regency®, Hyatt Place® and Hyatt Summerfield Suites® brand names and have locations under development on five continents.

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As of June 30, 2010, the company's worldwide portfolio consisted of 445 properties. For more information, visit www.hyatt.com.

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- * Entries will be accepted from November 01 (12:01am) to November 10, 2010 (11:59pm). A random selection engine will determine the winning electronic entries.
- * 30 winning electronic entries will be announced on November 15, 2010 through our official Facebook page and major daily newspapers.
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Business

IT&E marks 5th year, eyes more expansion

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

IT&E president and CEO Ricky Delgado celebrated the company's fifth anniversary Wednesday night at Hyatt Regency Saipan reminiscing about the past and excited about the company's future.

With Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, his father Ricky Sr., employees, and VIP guests in attendance, Delgado said the success IT&E is enjoying today wouldn't have been possible without the help of the government, partner Sumitomo Corp., and its staff.

The scion of a Filipino clan that made its wealth after World War II and pioneered digital mobile service in the Philippines in 1994, Delgado said he and the company have gone a long way since its planned acquisition of Verizon was heavily criticized way back in 2001.

"Coming here as an unknown person, Congressman

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
IT&E president and CEO Ricky Delgado Jr. said the telecommunication's success wouldn't have been possible without the help of the government, partner Sumitomo Corp., and its staff.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
IT&E president and CEO Ricky Delgado Jr., fourth from left; IT&E executive vice president Larry Knecht, fifth from left; and Ricky Delgado Sr., the chairman of IT&E parent company, Prospector Holdings, sixth from left; join staff in blowing the "candles" of IT&E's birthday cake.

Stanley Torres said during one of his hearings that I wasn't really qualified and asked me what have I really achieved to be the CEO of this company. Of course, I was quite irritated when I heard that. But the truth is at the age of 31 or 32 I never really achieved anything except for going to school and getting good grades. It hurt to hear him say that but looking back maybe he was right," said Delgado.

After the then-PTI closed its purchase of Verizon in 2005, the company has flourished and Delgado attributes this to IT&E's vision that has been executed by its hardworking management and staff.

"PTI in 2005 is a very different company from what it is today. It is because we had a plan. We knew we had to go to Guam (Purchase of IT&E). We knew we had to go wireless. We knew all these things. There was a plan. Everybody got in line and everyone knew what to do," he said.

The son also rises

For his part, Ricky Delgado Sr., the chairman of IT&E parent company, Prospector Holdings, said the company's success and expansion, first to Guam and then to Palau, is a result of a "happy convergence of a number of factors fitting together at the right time and at the right way."

"Instead of the expected paradigm of the big island engulfing the small ones, we have ventured from these small islands to the big island of Guam and have successfully set our footprints there," he said.

He also recognized his son and the entire IT&E staff. He said the younger Delgado has led IT&E with "competence and vision, energy, dedication, and excellence."

The elder Delgado added that that leadership has equated to the quality of men and women that make up IT&E and the suc-

cessful results they have brought the past five years.

Fitial congratulated the Delgados in IT&E's fifth year anniversary and said he is already looking forward to the telecommunications company's plans to bring the first high-capacity broadband services to the CNMI and Guam.

IT&E was awarded an \$8-million grant from National Telecommunications and Information Administration to improve broadband services within the CNMI and Guam.

"We are looking forward to IT&E also upgrading the islands' network infrastructure, replacing existing inter-island services, and using fiber 3G wireless and Wi-MAX technology," he said.

Eye on the future

Ricky Delgado Jr. said IT&E is already excited about its product and service offerings in the next year or two.

He said IT&E is expected to start selling Apple iPhones in the first quarter of 2011 as well as unveil cell phones with 4G technology in 2012.

"Verizon is supposed to carry the iPhone in the first quarter of 2010 and once that happens their will be CDMA iPhones available from IT&E," he said.

Delgado also admitted while IT&E's call center is business is not where they want it to be, the telecommunications company will continue to invest in the business and still believes that the industry has a bright future in the CNMI.

"We want to expand our call center business. We currently handle all directory assistance calls in the state of Hawaii (Hawaiian Telecom) and we want to grow. It's been difficult to grow it but we won't stop trying," he said.

Other plans in the pipeline, according to Delgado, are IT&E's expansion to the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Hawaii.

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\$26.99 3 DAYS ONLY NOV. 5, 6 & 7

Fed will spend \$600B in latest bid to help economy

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Federal Reserve will sink \$600 billion into government bonds in a bold plan that it hopes will drive interest rates even lower than they already are and start the chain reaction that finally creates jobs and invigorates the economy.

The Fed said Wednesday that it would buy the bonds at a rate of about \$75 billion a month through the middle of next year. The idea is to encourage people to spend more money and stimulate hiring, both ways of accelerating economic growth.

The announcement helped push stocks, which have been rising for weeks in anticipation of such a move, to their highest close of the year. But the program was immediately met with

worries that it would not help enough and could backfire by causing inflation, creating asset bubbles and further weakening the dollar.

Even some analysts who were not concerned about such a backlash said the plan was unlikely to do much good.

"Bottom line: The plan pro-

vides a boost to the economy's growth, but it is not going to solve our problems," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics. "Even with the Fed's action, we're going to feel uncomfortable about the economy in the next six to 12 months."

The announcement came a day after voters frustrated by persistent unemployment and the limp housing market handed

control of the House to Republicans and gave the GOP a bigger voice in the Senate.

The split will probably make it harder for President Barack Obama to enact any major economic initiatives and could put more pressure on the Fed to get the economy back on firmer footing.

The program is smaller than what Fed policymakers called their "shock and awe" approach to fighting the 2008 financial crisis. At that time, the Fed bought \$1.7 trillion worth of securities.

This new program, includ-

ing money that the Fed plans

to reinvest from the portfolio of

mortgages it has bought, should

ultimately total \$850 billion to

\$900 billion.

The Fed's balance sheet, a measure of all its total holdings and investments, has ballooned to \$2.3 trillion, nearly triple what it was at the end of 2007, when the economy slid into recession.

In addition to the Fed's move, financial markets had anticipated the Republican takeover of the House for weeks and did not move much after the announcement. The Dow Jones industrial average finished up 26 points, about a quarter of a percentage point and good enough for a new high for the year.

Bond prices mostly rose. The huge demand from the Fed will make bonds more expensive and bring down the yields they pay out, which are connected to interest rates. The 30-year Treas-

sury bond fell in price because the Fed is not expected to buy as many of those as other types of bonds.

In announcing its action, the Fed pointed out that the economic recovery remains slow. Companies are still reluctant to hire, housing activity is depressed, and Americans are increasing their spending only gradually.

Ten members of the Fed's Open Market Committee voted for the program. The lone dissenter was Thomas Hoenig, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, who said the program was too risky. Among his fears: The Fed's plan will unleash inflation.

But Chairman Ben Bernanke said those worries are overblown.

"Concerns about this approach are overstated," Bernanke said in an opinion piece scheduled to be published Thursday in the Washington Post.

With the economy weak, the Fed is aiming to avoid the kind of economic stagnation that gripped Japan and led to a "lost decade" during the 1990s. Japan is still recovering from deflation, the self-reinforcing cycle of lower prices, during that time.

The Fed actually wants to raise inflation from its current level, which is extremely low. Besides warding off deflation, a little inflation can be good for the economy, encouraging people to spend their money rather than save it.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

GM expects to earn up to \$2.1B as IPO approaches

DETROIT (AP)—General Motors Co. took a huge step forward Thursday in ending its ownership by the government, filing paperwork that gave the price range and other details of a planned initial public offering. The company also forecast that it earned as much as \$2.1 billion from July through September, a strong financial performance as the company prepares for an initial stock offering on Nov. 18.

AT&T sets up division to target health care

NEW YORK (AP)—AT&T Inc., the country's largest telecommunications company, on Thursday said it is setting up a division to target the health care industry, hoping to have a significant seat at the table when industry adopts electronic medical records, doctor's visits by video-conferencing and wireless gadgets like remote glucose monitors. There are already "intelligent pill-bottle caps" that sense if they've been opened. If they aren't opened every day, they send text messages through AT&T's network to caregivers who can remind patients to take their medicine.

Asian stock markets rise after Fed's stimulus plan

BANGKOK (AP)—Asian stock markets climbed Thursday as investors took heart from the Federal Reserve's plan to buy \$600 billion in government bonds in an effort to inject life into the faltering U.S. economy. Oil prices rose above \$85 a barrel after the U.S. central bank said it would buy \$75 billion in Treasury bonds per month through the middle of next year. In currencies, the dollar was down against the yen and the euro.

Fundraising Raffle Winners for Jose Tenorio Chong October 30, 2010

Prizes	Description	Ticket#	Name
Grand	Live Young Cow	1540	M.S.N.
1st	Live Goat	0578	Mariano Fajardo
2nd	Live Goat	1542	Edmund Villagomez
3rd	Live Roasting Pig	1506	E. Torres
4th	Live Roasting Pig	0805	Devon Muna
5th	Live Goat	1424	Dennis Agcaoli
6th	Live Piglet	1490	Carlita

Consolation Prizes

7th	\$50.00 Gift Certificate	1061	Alli Kilili
8th	\$50.00 Gift Certificate	1126	Kirs Russian
9th	\$30.00 Gift Certificate	0322	Rita Chargualaf
10th	Hand Mixer	0306	J.P. Flores
11th	Mini Chopper	1238	Ezra Ada
12th	Electric Can Opener	0734	Monica Manalo
13th	Toaster	1323	Divana Dela Cruz
14th	1cs 22lbs. Chicken	1835	Glenn Dlg
15th	1cs 22lbs. Chicken	1326	Divana Dela Cruz
16th	1cs. Ribs	0062	Debra Inos
17th	1cs. Ribs	1954	Christian
18th	\$10.00 Cash	0820	Sarah Serrano
19th	\$10.00 Cash	0117	Leslie De Brum
20th	\$10.00 Cash	0596	Angelo Nicholas
21st	\$10.00 Cash	0746	Sidney Camacho
22nd	24 Pcs. Bake ware	1438	Lume Bermudez
23rd	3 Pcs. Canape Bread Molds/Bake Pans	0149	Evelyn fr. DJ Fish Mobile
24th	Swifter Carpet Flick	0131	Ida De Brum
25th	Wine	0797	Ricchie Reyes
26th	Club Umbrella/15 pcs Golf balls	0806	De Jana Muna

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to our family and friends for their support during this Fundraising Event. And to all the people who helped in donating prizes and who bought tickets, thank you! We will always keep you in our thoughts and prayers.

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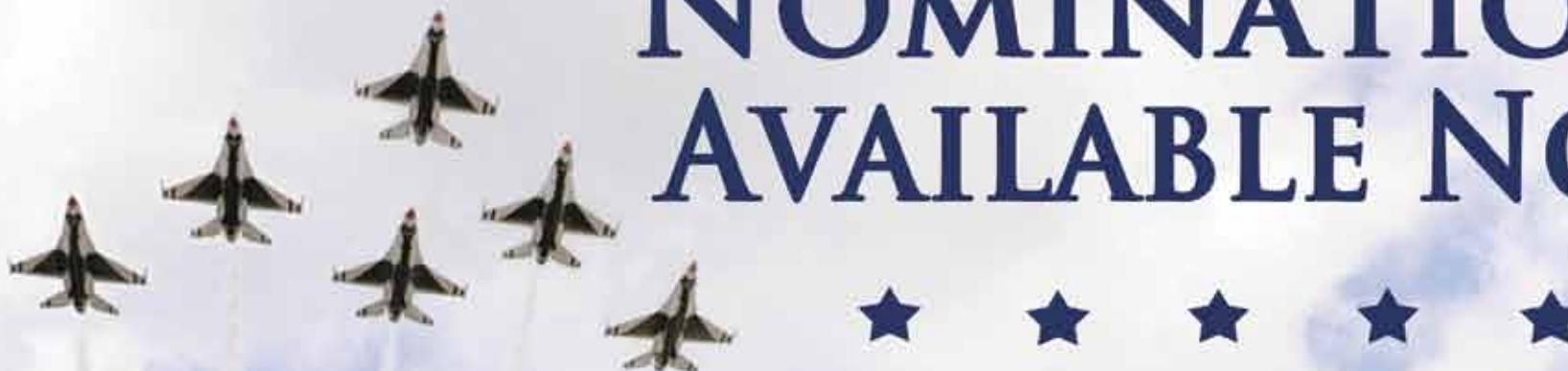
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Nation

New reality: Obama, GOP talk compromise, conflict

WASHINGTON (AP)—A chastened President Barack Obama signaled a new willingness to yield to Republican demands on tax cuts and jettisoned a key energy priority on Wednesday, less than 24 hours after he and fellow Democrats absorbed election losses so severe he called them a shell-lacking.

But he bluntly swept aside any talk of repeal of his signature health care law—right after the House Speaker-in-waiting, Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, vowed Republicans would do everything they could to wipe the legislation off the books.

Boehner, a 60-year-old veteran of two decades in Congress, spoke at what amounted to his national debut as head of an incoming conservative majority that will include long-experienced lawmakers and tea party-backed political newcomers alike. He declared, “Our new majority will be the voice of the American people as they expressed it so clearly yesterday.”

Separately, the Federal Reserve announced new steps de-



Obama

signed to further lower interest rates on loans and lead to more job creation, using powers denied mere politicians.

Taken together, the fast-paced series of events confirmed the primacy of the economy as an issue in a country with 9.6 percent unemployment, record home foreclosures and disappointingly slow growth.

In purely political terms, they also underscored a dramatic overnight power realignment after two years of grinding partisanship in Congress followed by a coarse and costly campaign.

For all the uncertainty they loosed, there was little that was ambiguous about the election results. House Republicans picked up 60 seats to capture a majority and led for five more, ending a four-year span in which Nancy Pelosi served as the first female speaker in history.

The GOP picked up at least six seats in the Senate in races reflecting both the peril and the potential of a tea party movement that emerged during the campaign. Tea party favorites

were elected to Senate seats in Florida, Kentucky and Utah, but they lost in Nevada, Delaware and Colorado—at a time when Republican victories in all three would have created a 50-50 tie.

Speaking to reporters in the Capitol, Boehner said he and fellow Republicans hope the president “will continue to be willing to work with us” on the priorities of creating jobs and cutting spending.

But, he added, “We’re going to continue to renew our efforts for a smaller, less costly and more accountable government here in Washington, D.C.”

Obama struck similar themes at his own news conference a few hours later, saying he was eager to sit down with the leaders of both political parties “and figure out how we can move forward together.” He added, “It won’t be easy,” noting the parties differ profoundly in key areas.

Sounding more conciliatory than in the past, the president said he was open to compromise with Republicans on their demand for an extension of all of the Bush-era tax cuts due to expire on Jan. 1, including those that apply to upper-

income earners.

“My goal is to make sure we don’t have a huge spike in taxes for middle-class families,” he

said. He omitted mention of his campaign-long insistence that tax cuts be permitted to expire on upper-income families. The

issue produced pre-election skirmishes in Congress and frequent disagreement during the campaign.

ACROSS THE NATION

Police: Package checked at NYC airport is harmless

NEW YORK (AP)—Authorities say they briefly inspected a suspicious package at New York City’s John F. Kennedy International Airport but it turned out to be nothing dangerous. New York Police Department spokesman Paul Browne says the package contained a cell phone and paperwork. U.S. law enforcement has been on alert following last week’s unsuccessful plot to mail bombs from Yemen inside Chicago-bound packages on cargo planes. Those bombs had cell phones attached. The FBI says it investigated the New York package Wednesday night “out of an abundance of caution.” The New York police bomb squad was sent to the airport to inspect the package. The Queens airport is one of the busiest in the nation. It served nearly 46 million people in the last 12 months.

Ariz. county to pay \$2M to La. man shot in eye

PHOENIX (AP)—An Arizona county will pay \$2 million to a Louisiana man who says he was shot in the eye by two of the county’s deputies who were working in New Orleans in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. The Arizona Republic says the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors voted Wednesday to approve the payment to settle a lawsuit. The two deputies were among

members of the Phoenix-based sheriff’s office who flew to Louisiana to help that state in the aftermath of the devastating hurricane in September 2005. According to a complaint filed in federal court, Richard Naquin got into a road rage incident with the two deputies and he was shot in the left eye. Naquin claims his eye is damaged beyond repair and he’ll need a prosthetic eyeball. Maricopa County Risk Manager Peter Crowley said Wednesday officials felt it was in the county’s best interest to settle the suit.

Denver bus driver pleads guilty in fatal crash

DENVER (AP)—A bus driver has pleaded guilty in a Denver crash that killed two people and injured 11. The Denver district attorney’s office says 30-year-old Tideneeykiyalesh (tie-den-ee-kee-yah-leesh) Hawariyat (haw-rahr-ee-yat) pleaded guilty Wednesday to two counts of careless driving resulting in death and one count of careless driving resulting in injury. She faces three years of probation and such conditions as community service when she is sentenced Jan. 6. Police say the bus ran a red light and crashed into two vehicles in April. Two people in one car were killed, and another driver and 10 bus passengers were injured. Hawariyat was driving a Regional Transportation District bus, but was employed by a private contractor.



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World

US warns of possible terror attack in RP

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The United States and four other countries warned of possible terrorist attacks in Manila and elsewhere in the Philippines, sparking a security alert on Wednesday in the sprawling capital.

The U.S., Australia, Canada and New Zealand have previously issued similar security alerts for the volatile southern Philippines, where Muslim rebels and al-Qaida militants are active. But this time, the four specifically mentioned Manila

as a possible target in their latest travel advisories.

Australia, citing unspecified but reliable reports, said an attack in the capital may be "imminent."

The four governments and Britain warned their citizens visiting the Philippines to stay away from shopping malls, convention centers and places frequented by foreigners. The warnings did not identify the source of the threat or release other details.

"Reliable reports indicate that

terrorist attacks may be imminent in Manila," said Australia's advisory, posted on a government website.

Philippine Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin said Wednesday that the military and police have not uncovered any specific threat but that the government is taking no chances.

Government forces were on full alert in the capital. Police, backed by new motorcycle patrol units, have beefed up security in hotels, shopping malls, air and seaports, train stations

and other public areas.

U.S. and Australian Embassy officials contacted by The Associated Press did not elaborate on their governments' advisories.

British Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Colin Crorkin said his country's assessment of the high risks of terrorist strikes in the Philippines had not changed but added that his government recently included additional possible targets such as airports, malls and places of worship.

A Philippine official said the warnings may have come from a

confidential terrorist threat assessment report by Western security officials indicating that Muslim extremists may attack a popular Manila mall, a trade center and political figures, including two Manila-based Asian diplomats.

The official, who monitors security threats, spoke on condition of anonymity due to a lack of authority to talk to the press.

Gazmin told the AP that the government sent intelligence agents to verify the threat. Authorities also plan to ask the U.S., Australian and British em-

bassies to provide more details.

"We are taking this seriously, and we know that this is creating apprehension," Gazmin said. "We have deployed intelligence agents, but they have not come back with anything specific."

He said he discussed with the military chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Ricardo David, the possible deployment of marines to shopping malls and other public areas. However, Gazmin was reluctant to take that step, which has been sharply criticized in the past by leftist lawmakers.

WORLD BRIEFS

Huge volcanic blast spurs more Indonesians to flee

MOUNT MERAPI, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesia's deadly volcano sent a burst of searing gas high into the air Thursday, hours after its most explosive eruption in a deadly week triggered an exodus from villages and emergency shelters along its rumbling slopes. After days of continual explosions, and warnings that pressure inside Mount Merapi may still be building, the province warned it was running out of money to help more than 70,000 people forced from their homes.

Confusion, fear as Haiti camps evacuate for storm

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—For nearly 10 months, more than 1 million people in Haiti's earthquake camps have been walking a precarious line: Trying to get out and find good homes without losing their tents and the possessions they still have. Now a potential hurricane threatens to upset that careful balance. The Haitian government has called for the voluntary evacuation of all the quake zone's camps ahead of Friday's expected arrival of Tropical

Storm Tomas, telling residents to find somewhere else to go.

Report: NKorean hacking increases ahead of G-20

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea has been hacking into South Korean government computer networks with greater frequency to gather information on next week's Group of 20 summit in Seoul, a South Korean newspaper reported Thursday. North Korea has a track record of provocations when world attention is focused on the rival South, and Seoul is

bracing for any possible North Korean moves to sabotage the meeting of world leaders.

Qantas plane makes emergency landing in Singapore

SINGAPORE (AP)—A Qantas jetliner made an emergency landing Thursday in Singapore with 459 people aboard, after one of its four engines shut down over western Indonesia and following witness reports of a blast that sent debris hurtling to the ground. The airliner denied there had been any explosion, and said the plane landed safely with no injuries. Qantas had no immediate comment on whether the engine troubles were related to eruptions of Indonesia's Mount Merapi over the past 10 days.

18 bodies found in Mexico mass grave near Acapulco

ACAPULCO, Mexico (AP)—Police recovered 18 bodies Wednesday in a mass grave identified in a narco-video as the burial site for 20 men who were kidnapped a month ago in the Pacific coast city of Acapulco. Fernando Monreal, investigative police chief for Guerrero state, had reported earlier that 19 bodies were removed, but he said Wednesday night that investigators miscounted the badly decomposed bodies.

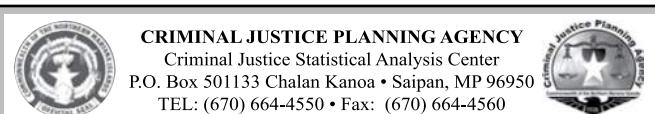
US, New Zealand mend ties after nuclear dispute

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—The United States and New Zealand moved Thursday to fully restore relations that have been strained by a lingering 25-year nuclear dispute that has hampered military cooperation. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and New Zealand's Foreign Minister Murray McCully signed the "Wellington Declaration," a broad statement of principles that lays out parameters of expanded U.S.-New Zealand cooperation on counterterrorism, nuclear nonproliferation, transnational crime and climate change.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9912, hereby giving notice that the CNMI State Advisory Group (SAG), also known as the "Youth Advisory Council" (YAC) of the Criminal Justice Planning Agency will hold an Official Award Meeting on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M., NAPU Conference Room, Pacific Islands Club, Saipan

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- IV. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES, of Minutes from YAC meeting on August 13, 2010.
- V. NEW BUSINESS
 - a) Welcoming, Introduction of members, Report, Joe Limes, Chairman
 - b) CJPA Report, Jerome Jerome, Executive Director
 - c) Proposed Transfer of JDU Management under DOC authority
 - d) CNMI-FACJ Representatives, Mr. Perry Iguel
 - e) Review and Award of 2010 Subgrant-Applications for the 2010 OJJDP Grant Programs, as follow:
 - o Title II Formula Grant
 - o Title V Prevention Grant
 - o Juvenile Accountability Block Grant
 - o Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Grant
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
 - a) CNMI—Juvenile Justice *Three Year State Plan*, due March 31, 2011
 - b) Approval of Amendments in the YAC Bylaws, Thomas Camacho, V. Chair
- VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a) Next Youth Advisory Council Meeting
 - b) Supervisory Council Meeting scheduled for November 18 and 19, 2010.
 - c) Others
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Should you need more information, please call the CJPA at 664-4550-7.

/s/ Mr. Joe Limes
Chairperson
State Advisory Group

/s/ Mr. Jerome I. Jerome
Executive Director, CJPA

Publication of this notice was paid for with federal funds from the US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

BEFORE THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

REGULATORY MATTERS CONCERNING COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION AND MICRONESIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION DOCKETS 09-1 & 09-3

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Commission will conduct a public hearing, which will commence at 10:00 p.m. on Friday November 12, 2010 at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's conference room in the Family Building Garapan to consider the following regulatory matters concerning the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation [CUC] and the Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation [MTC]:

1. CUC's October 25, 2010 petition for affirmation of its current unmetered wastewater tariff practices.
2. CUC's status reports on its efforts to: a] retain a risk management consultant to assist in developing a strategy regarding potential oil spills; b] mitigate non-technical line losses; and c] install meters for all residential and commercial water customers.
3. A stipulation between MTC and the Commission's regulatory consultant, which recommends terms for the resolution of the Commission's section 8421[a] review of MTC's local rates.
4. A proposed administrative order, which would establish a protocol for the annual review and certification of eligible telecommunications carriers' entitlement to federal high cost funding. A copy of the proposed order is posted on the Chamber's website.

Persons who desire to formally participate in the hearing pursuant to 4 CMC §8409(j) should on or before November 8, 2010 file with the Commission at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce offices an application and offer of proof in accordance with §8409(j) and Commission Procedural Rule 11(c). Further information about the public hearing and the public's right to participate may be obtained from Commissioner Calabrese at 670-233-7150.

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Rings up to \$500 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold School Rings up to \$500 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Watches up to \$1,750 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Cuff Links up to \$300 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Watch Cases up to \$750 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Chains up to \$1,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Nugget Rings up to \$800 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Broken Rings up to \$500 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Watch Bands up to \$1,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Earrings up to \$200 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Pocket Watches up to \$750 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Brooches up to \$1,000 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Wedding Bands up to \$350 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dental Gold up to \$900 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Link Bracelets up to \$2,500 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Coins up to \$15,000 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Bangles up to \$850 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Scrap up to \$1,250 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Broken Chains up to \$1,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Bars up to \$15,000 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Pendants up to \$300 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Nugget Bracelets .. up to \$2,500 | | |

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Science & Technology

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Wis. man votes from hospital after heart surgery

MILWAUKEE (AP)—A Milwaukee man who came to after heart surgery and demanded a ballot has been allowed to vote. Janis Struel of Allenton said her father called her about 8 a.m. Tuesday and said he was having chest pains. He was rushed into surgery an hour later and had a stent put in. When he came to a few hours later, 69-year-old Terry Kopplin asked to vote. Struel said she and her family called Republican gubernatorial candidate Scott Walker's campaign to see what to do. Struel said a friend picked up Kopplin's ballot, and the lifelong Republican voted at the hospital—for Walker. Wisconsin Government Accountability Board spokesman Reid Magney said Wisconsin law allows hospitalized voters to request absentee ballots until 5 p.m. on Election Day.

Nev. mom admits letting boy drive after she drank

MINDEN, Nev. (AP)—A Nevada woman has admitted letting her 12-year-old son drive her car because she was drunk. The Gardnerville Record-Cou-

rier reported 35-year-old Misty McCollister awaits sentencing Dec. 14. She pleaded guilty Tuesday to attempted child abuse or neglect. McCollister was arrested Oct. 17 near her home after a witness reported seeing a car weaving in and out of its lane and varying its speed. The witness told sheriff's deputies he passed the vehicle and saw a child in the driver's seat. Another woman and a 7-year-old child also were in the car. McCollister told District Judge Dave Gamble that the other woman refused to drive because she didn't have her glasses, so she put her son on her lap so he could drive them home. She admitted to drinking all that weekend.

Fla. man arrested in diaper: Md. teens taunted me

OCEAN CITY, Md. (AP)—A Florida man arrested for disorderly conduct while wearing a diaper on Halloween says he was pelted with candy by teenagers and wasn't drunk at the time. Maryland State Police said 47-year-old Joseph David DiVanna of Sarasota, Fla., was arrested about 9:15 p.m. Sunday. State Police said witnesses re-

ported DiVanna cursed at adults and children in the Fox Chapel neighborhood of West Ocean City as he tried to get them to give him candy. Divanna said he was wearing a full baby costume complete with T-shirt, bib and bonnet and believes neighbors upset at his trick-or-treating alerted police. Divanna said he had been drinking, but wasn't drunk and was provoked by teens, who he said were the ones acting disorderly.

ND man reports uninvited couple in his hot tub

DICKINSON, N.D. (AP)—Police say a North Dakota man was surprised to find two people sitting in his hot tub when he went to check on a noise at 4 a.m. Officer Ron Van Doorne told The Dickinson Press that the man asked them what they were doing. They said, "We're sorry," then left. The incident occurred Monday. Van Doorne said there was no disorderly conduct or damage, "other than the fact that they were sitting in his hot tub at 4 o'clock in the morning." Said Van Doorne: "You can't make this kind of stuff up."

By TRICIA GOSS
EDITOR, OFFICEUSERS.ORG

It is easy to print a single envelope in Word. However, what if you want to print a bunch of them? After you click Print on the Envelopes and Labels dialog box, it disappears along with all the info you typed. Open it again and you will have to retype all of it.

There are a couple different ways to be able to print as many envelopes with your return address as you want, but here is the way I find simplest. Start with a new, blank Word document.

In Word 2003, go to the Tools menu, point to Letters and Mailings and select Envelopes and Labels. Be sure to go to the Envelopes tab of the Envelopes and Labels dialog box.

In Word 2007 or 2010, go to the Mailings tab and click Envelopes in the Create group.

Next, type in your return address. Before clicking Print, though, click the Add to Document button. Now your envelope will be at the top of your current file.

Now all you need to do is go to Print from the File menu, Office Button or File Tab, depending on which version of Word you are using. Under Page Range,

MICROSOFT OFFICE USERS

Print several envelopes with the same address

the Ribbon list under Main Tabs, select the Developer check box.

Once you have the Developer tab visible, the rest is easy. Whenever you need to insert a date and you need to look at a calendar, just place your cursor in the spot where you want it, go to the Developer tab and click the Date Picker Content Control button in the Controls group. A control will appear on your document. Click the drop-down arrow on the end and a calendar will pop up. You can scroll backward and forward through the months and years, and then simply click on the date you want to enter.

Also, if you want to change properties of the calendar or the way the date is displayed, simply click on the Date Picker Content Control button and then click on Properties to make all of your desired changes.

Of course, I don't want those of you using Word 2003 to feel left out! There is a free popup calendar add-in that you can download from Microsoft Office Marketplace that does pretty much the same thing. Check it out here: <http://cpap.com.br/orlando/WordCalendarMore.asp?IdC=OMktPlc&=>

TECH Q&A

MP3 conversion stymies CD burning

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I copied a CD to my computer, then unsuccessfully tried to burn a new CD with the same content. The original

CD contained only 106 megabytes of MP3 audio data. But when I tried to burn that content to an empty CD with a capacity of 700 megabytes, I got an error message that said the "file is too big to burn." What can I do?

IN LOVING MEMORY OF Ignacio P. Togawa

"Known as TAKABO"

July 31, 1937 – October 30, 2010

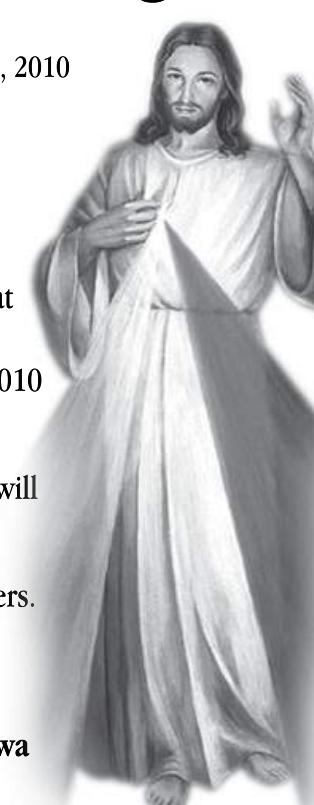
Rosary is said nightly at 8:00pm at the family residence in Capitol Hill.

Funeral Services will be at Mt. Carmel Cathedral on Saturday, November 6, 2010 beginning at 10:00 am.

Mass of Christian Burial will commence at 3:00 pm.

Thank you for your prayers.

From Consolacion
"Connie" Cabrera Togawa
(wife) and the Family



Tom Tran, St. Paul, Minn.

ANSWER: To burn a CD, your PC is converting your MP3 file to what's called a Wave file, which a CD player can recognize. The conversion swells the file to 10 times its original size. As a result, your 106-megabyte MP3 file has become about a 1-gigabyte Wave file that's too big to fit on a 700-megabyte CD. But there are a couple of possible solutions:

If your MP3 file is made up of individual songs, you could burn half of them on one CD and half on another.

If your MP3 file is one continuous recording, you could break it in half and burn each segment on a different CD. For programs that can break an MP3 file into segments, see <http://tinyurl.com/23w26ny>.

If neither alternative is appealing, you could buy a new CD player which also reads MP3 files. It could play your original MP3 disk.

Why are you having this messy conversion problem? MP3 and Wave music files were invented with different uses in mind.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; e-mail: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY



Paul Chandler Hamilton

We the family humbly invite all of our relatives and friends to join us in prayers of our dearly beloved husband and father unto eternal life

Daily Mass will be offered every morning beginning on Sunday, October 31, 2010 to November 8, 2010 at 6:00am at Kristo Rai Church.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase

The Family

Life & Style

Taylor Swift sells more than 1M copies of new CD

NEW YORK (AP)—Taylor Swift fans have spoken—more than a million times. The country-pop superstar sold more than 1 million copies of her new album “Speak Now” to debut at the top of the Billboard album chart this week. Billboard.com said Wednesday that it’s the biggest debut since 50 Cent’s “The Massacre” five years ago.

“I... Can’t... Believe... This... You guys have absolutely lit up my world. Thank you,” Swift tweeted Wednesday morning.

According to Nielsen SoundScan figures, “Speak Now” sold 1,047,000 copies since it was released last week. That’s slightly higher than the 1,006,000 posted by Lil Wayne’s “Tha Carter III” in 2008.

Craig Marks, the editor of Billboard, said that Swift’s feat solidified her status as one of pop’s most important and influential music superstars.

“What she did now, maybe it’s the equivalent of selling 2 million records, or even more, a half a dozen years ago,” he said. “It’s an incredulous accomplishment.”

“Speak Now” is only the 20-year-old’s third album. Scott Borchetta, CEO Swift’s record label Big Machine, said her most recent success has been

“almost surreal.”

“Everybody has worked so hard on this full release, and it’s truly been magical the last couple of weeks,” he said in an interview Tuesday.

But Swift’s been on a magical ride for quite some time. Her self-titled debut went multiplatinum, and her sophomore album, 2008’s “Fearless,” was an even bigger multiplatinum, multi-genre success. It netted her a multitude of awards, with the crowning achievement being her four Grammys at the beginning of the year, including best album.

Swift could have taken time off after that high, but she was already at work on “Speak Now.”

“It’s about the fan base,” Borchetta said. “It’s been two years; they wanted another album.”

Borchetta credited the quality of the album, which has been praised by the likes of Rolling Stone and The New York Times, for much of its success, but also pointed to partnerships with retailers including iTunes and Target, as well as the album’s presence in places like Costco.

“Target has the only deluxe of ‘Speak Now.’ ... That was a game-changer,” he said. He noted that 2 million song downloads were sold on iTunes before “Speak Now’s” release last week, and that this time around, the album was also sold in Starbucks.

“We had a lot of nontraditional accounts carrying this,”

he noted.

Swift’s team had confidence she could make such a high debut, and shipped 2 million units of the album to stores, even as naysayers warned it might be a pipe dream at such a dour time for the music industry.

“We’ve never been afraid to dream big together, and this was the biggest dream that we had a year ago when we started talking about this launch,” he said, “so it’s truly an amazing and magical moment.”

Swift’s blockbuster sales come at a crucial time for the industry, which has continued its sales downslide this year with dismal numbers. The industry has entered its fourth quarter, when it usually hopes to bring in top sales. Albums are still expected from top names like Susan Boyle, Josh Groban and Swift nemesis Kanye West.

Marks said that while Swift’s numbers are a boon to the industry, she is unlikely to bring any other artists bigger sales. “She’s a unique artist,” he said. “I don’t think her sales have coattails for any other particular artist who is releasing records in the fourth quarter.” As for Swift’s moment, Borchetta said she’s savoring it. They had a small celebration dinner this week and he anticipated that she’d do a bigger fete with one of her favorite activities, dancing, with her friends, family, and her band.

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Author may not be done with ‘Earth’s Children’

NEW YORK (AP)—Jean M. Auel may not be done with “Earth’s Children,” after all.

“The Land of Painted Caves,” the sixth and supposedly final book of her multimillion-selling series, comes out in March. But Auel says she has not stopped thinking about her heroine Ayla and her adventures in prehistoric times.

“To be honest, I don’t feel like I’m through,” the author, 74, told The Associated Press during a recent telephone interview. “I still have some material and I’m going to keep on writing. It’s what I do.”

Fascinated by life from thousands of years ago, to the point where she learned how to make an ice cave and tan leather, Auel started the series in her early 40s and debuted in 1980 with “The Clan of the Cave Bear,” which later became a film of the same

name starring Daryl Hannah as Ayla, the orphaned Cro-Magnon raised by Neanderthals.

The first three novels of the series were completed by the mid-1980s but then Auel slowed down. The fourth book, “The Plains of Passage,” took five years to write. The fifth, “The Shelters of Stone,” took more than a decade. Auel needed eight years for “The Land of Painted Caves.”

“I was raising a family, having grandchildren. Life gets in the way,” says Auel, who at her current pace would be in her 80s by the time a seventh volume came out. “All the books have been difficult to write. On the first one, I was really spending all my time on that book, 24-7 as they say now. I worked on it from the time I got up to the time I went to bed, every single day. At that time, I just had to

write that story. I still have to write that story but it’s different. You lose a little drive.”

Auel wouldn’t give details on “Painted Caves,” but says the ending should be “a little surprising.” One twist, perhaps, for Auel fans: She has allowed her work to be downloaded as e-books.

“My agent said, ‘I think it’s time,’ and we wondered about it and we talked about it. I think we were both just wondering at first how it would work, how you would collect the money and how you would get your intellect property paid for,” she says, adding that she works on a computer. “But I do not use the Internet, because I know myself too well. Once I got on the Internet I would get so distracted, I’d be basically giving one of my books to the Internet because I wouldn’t be writing. I’d be playing on that machine.”

Bristol Palin didn’t turn in her absentee ballot

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Bristol Palin has been so busy practicing her moves for “Dancing With the Stars,” she apparently forgot to send in her absentee ballot.

The 20-year-old daughter of former Gov. Sarah Palin, who campaigned for candidates across

the nation in this election, told the syndicated TV show “Inside Edition” after Tuesday’s night show, “I did not send in my absentee ballot in Alaska. I’m going to be in trouble. Sorry, Mom!”

Bristol Palin also voiced her opinion on whether she thinks

“Of course I do. I know that she’s great and she’d be great for our country,” she said. Palin will be one of five people returning to dance Monday on “Dancing With the Stars.”

In this Sept. 22, 2010 photo, musician Taylor Swift poses for a portrait in West Hollywood, Calif. Swift’s new album “Speak Now” will be released on Oct. 25, 2010. AP



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NOW SHOWING

Megamind



Synopsis

DreamWorks Animation presents this satirical take on the superhero genre focusing on a down-and-out super villain who has to learn how to get his groove back when he’s left without an arch nemesis in this comedy from directors Cameron Hood and Kyle Jefferson.

Due Date



Synopsis

Director Todd Phillips re-teams with his break-out Hangover star Zach Galifianakis for this road movie concerning a soon-to-be father (played by Robert Downey Jr.) and his cross-country trip to make it back in time for his baby’s birth—with the only roadblock being the dubious passenger (Galifianakis) who’s along for the ride. Michelle Monaghan and Jamie Foxx co-star in the Warner Bros./Legendary Pictures production.

The Social Network



Synopsis

The story behind the massive social networking site Facebook gets the big-screen treatment with this Columbia Pictures production scripted by The West Wing’s Aaron Sorkin. The film will focus on Harvard student Mark Zuckerberg’s ladder to the top after creating one of the biggest Internet sensations.

Paranormal Activity 2



Synopsis

Friday 4:30 7:30 9:45 Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00 Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30 Monday & Tuesday 4:30 7:30 Wednesday 4:30 7:30 9:45 Thursday 1:30 4:30 7:30 Katie Featherston, Micah Sloat Thriller • Rated R

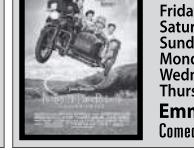
Easy A



Synopsis

Friday 4:10 7:10 9:45 Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:45 Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10 Monday & Tuesday 4:10 7:10 Wednesday 4:10 7:10 9:45 Thursday 1:10 4:10 7:10 Emma Stone, Penn Badgley Comedy • Rated PG 13

Red



Synopsis

Friday 4:15 7:15 9:50 Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:50 Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15 Monday & Tuesday 4:15 7:15 Wednesday 4:15 7:15 9:50 Thursday 1:15 4:15 7:15 Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman Thriller, Action • Rated PG 13

Nanny McPhee Returns



Synopsis

Friday 4:05 7:05 9:35 Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05 Monday & Tuesday 4:05 7:05 Wednesday 4:05 7:05 9:35 Thursday 1:05 4:05 7:05 Emma Thomson, Maggie Gyllenhaal Comedy • Rated PG

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Working smoke alarm is best defense against fire fatalities

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Approximately every three hours, a home fire death occurs somewhere in the U.S. These fatalities occur because there wasn't a functioning smoke detector in the house.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 96 percent of American homes have at least one smoke alarm. However, an estimated 19 percent of them do not work, primarily because of missing or dead batteries.

Please join me this year in urging your readers when they set their clocks back to standard time this Sunday to use the extra hour they gain to change and test the batteries in their smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. It only takes a moment, and they offer the best defense a family has against the devastating effects of a home fire.

No one should be hurt or potentially lose a life for want of a working smoke alarm, yet death strikes nearly 3,000 people every year in home fires. A working smoke alarm will provide individuals and families precious extra seconds to get out safely.

Thank you for printing this, Abby. Together, we can make a difference and, hopefully, save a life.

JACK PAROW, PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

DEAR MR. PAROW: I hope my readers will take to heart your suggestion. This is a ritual I perform when I set my clocks back every year. And readers, please be aware that smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years and there should be a mix of both ionization and photoelectric smoke alarms in your home so that you and your loved ones will be alerted to all types of home fires. This was news to me, and I hope you will mention it to your friends and loved ones!

DEAR ABBY: I have been unhappy for more than a year. People tell me my teens should be a happy time in my life, but they aren't. I have a pretty good life with no major problems. But because it's not perfect, I tend to take little things and agonize over them. My emotions are affecting my relationships with other people, my self-esteem and, most of all, my mind.

After doing some research and a lot of thinking, I know I need to see a therapist, but my problem is my parents. At first, I was terrified to tell them. But I finally told my mom. I'm still afraid to tell my dad.

My mother refuses to deal with it. When I ask her to find a therapist, she either won't talk about it, hoping I will forget about it, or she makes an excuse or makes it sound like I don't need one.

Abby, I'm only 15; I have no power. How can I get my parents to understand that I need a therapist and they should help me get some help?

ALWAYS SAD IN ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

DEAR ALWAYS SAD: You appear to be a bright young lady who is very much in touch with your emotions. When someone is consistently depressed for more than a few weeks, it's a sign that professional help may be needed. There may be many reasons for your mother's reluctance to accept this—from concern about the cost to fear that seeing a therapist might cause you to be labeled as having emotional problems.

However, because your sadness is persistent, the person who should decide if you need therapy (or medication) should be a licensed mental health professional. Because you can't get your mother to take you seriously, discuss what has been going on with a counselor at school.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)



Dear Abby

'Hobbit' money sought; MGM files for bankruptcy

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Hollywood studio Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc., the home of James Bond, filed for bankruptcy protection on Wednesday in a plan that had the backing of its lenders and put funding of its half of "The Hobbit" back on track.

The "prepackaged" bankruptcy plan, more than a year in the making, should go quickly. MGM is to restructure and be managed by the co-CEOs of Spyglass Entertainment.

MGM lenders will trade about \$4 billion in debt for stock in the new company, valued at around \$2 billion.

Billionaire investor Carl Icahn was involved in the run-up to the filing, first backing a rival takeover attempt by Lions Gate Entertainment Corp., then throwing his weight behind Spyglass last week.

The company said in a statement that "certain immaterial modifications" convinced Icahn, a holder of a significant amount of MGM debt, to back the plan. Debt holders such as Icahn, Anchorage Advisors and Highland Capital Management are now set to take over the studio and equity owners such as Sony Corp. and Comcast Corp. will

have their stakes wiped out.

The changes included allowing Icahn to appoint one member of the nine-member board, on which Spyglass' co-CEOs Gary Barber and Roger Birnbaum would also get one seat each.

The modified deal excludes 15 films from the Spyglass movie library such as "Seabiscuit." As a result, the stake of Spyglass' co-CEOs in MGM will fall from the originally proposed 4.7 percent to significantly less, said a person familiar with the matter, who was not authorized to speak publicly and requested

anonymity. Instead, future projects that Spyglass is developing will be included in the merger, the person said.

"I am pleased that we were able to obtain an agreement to make changes to the MGM prepackaged plan that allows me to support it and enables the company to avoid a potentially costly and disruptive bankruptcy process," Icahn said in a statement.

In the bankruptcy court filings, MGM sought approval to spend up to \$125 million from its accounts on operations over the next 15 weeks.

Vargas Llosa says Nobel Prize has changed life

MADRID (AP)—Mario Vargas Llosa says winning the Nobel Prize in literature last month has changed his life but not his eagerness to write.

In Madrid on Wednesday to launch his latest novel, the Peruvian writer said he is overwhelmed with interview requests and that his adored daily routine is now in chaos.

But he insists, "I will continue to write and talk. It is the supreme passion."

"Death will find me with my pen in hand," he says.



Vargas Llosa said winning the Nobel was never among his ambitions. "My aspiration was to write good novels that can be read like the ones I read and which changed my life."

His new work, "El Sueño del Celta" ("The Celt's Dream"), is a fictional history based on the life of 20th-century Irish political figure Roger Casement.

'Law & Order' finds real handgun during filming

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The discovery of a real gun brought real police officers to "Law & Order: Los Angeles" during location filming.

Series spokeswoman Pam Golum said the NBC crime drama was filming Wednesday in the Culver City area west of downtown Los Angeles when a cameraman spotted the weapon on a rock.

Los Angeles police spokeswoman Karen Rayner says the semiautomatic handgun was in working order. It will be test-fired, with the results logged for possible crime matches.

Skeet Ulrich and Corey Stoll, who star as detectives in the show, were on location for a scene in which they arrest a man for murder.

BOX OFFICE HIT

In this film publicity image released by Universal Pictures, Gru, voiced by Steve Carell, tells his minions about their new mission to steal the moon in the 3-D CGI feature, "Despicable Me", about a villain who meets his match in three little girls. "Despicable Me" continues to wow family audiences in 23 international territories, earning an impressive \$19.1 million this past weekend, well on its way to a \$500 million worldwide gross.

Chilean miner accepts invite to Graceland

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—For rescued Chilean miner Edison Pena, New York comes first. Next are Graceland and Las Vegas.

Pena is set to arrive in New York on Thursday to attend Sunday's New York City Marathon after officials invited him. Word is the triathlete wants to run it.

The 34-year-old Pena's trip to New York also will include a scheduled appearance on the

"Late Show with David Letterman" on Thursday evening.

But the star treatment won't end there.

On Wednesday, Elvis Presley Enterprises said Pena accepted an invitation to Graceland, set for Jan. 6 to Jan. 9, which coincides with the anniversary of Elvis's birthday on Jan. 8, 1935.

Pena will get a private tour of the mansion and Elvis' grave, and will visit the exhibits across the street.

After that, he will be flown to Las Vegas to watch "Viva Elvis," the Cirque du Soleil show based on Elvis' music.

Pena is an Elvis fan who reportedly jogged to his music and conducted sing-alongs while trapped underground for 69 days with 32 fellow miners in Chile. Their saga and rescue last month earned worldwide attention.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

France honors 'beloved' US novelist Toni Morrison

PARIS (AP)—Toni Morrison is "beloved" in France, the country's culture minister said Wednesday, as he inducted the celebrated U.S. novelist into the elite Legion of Honor society. In a ceremony in a gilded hall in the ministry, Frederic Mitterrand pinned a red and gold medal onto the celebrated author's jacket as a scrum of photographers snapped away. Mitterrand called Morrison—a Nobel laureate and winner of the Pulitzer Prize—"the greatest American novelist of her time." "I want to tell you that you incarnate what's most beautiful about America ... (that) which gives a black child, born during segregation into a modest family in a medium-sized Ohio city an exceptional destiny," Mitterrand told Morrison, as she listened on from a gilt-covered armchair nearby. "You were the first woman writer to tell the painful history of Afro-Americans."

British government bars export of Turner painting

LONDON (AP)—The British government has stepped in to stop a J.M.W. Turner painting purchased by a U.S. museum earlier this year for almost 30 million pounds (\$45 million) from leaving the country. Culture Minister Ed Vaizey said he

was halting the export of "Modern Rome—Campo Vaccino" until February to give campaigners time to raise money to keep it in Britain. The government has the power to delay export of works judged to be national treasures. Government art advisers say the Turner is "so closely connected with our history and national life that its departure would be a misfortune." The 1839 panorama was purchased at a Sotheby's auction in July by the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles. The sale price was 29.7 million pounds, a record for the artist.

Cirque to take Michael Jackson on national tour

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Cirque du Soleil is taking Neverland Ranch on the road. The first of the acrobatic troupe's two planned Michael Jackson shows will be set in a stylized version of the singer's famed Southern California home, according to Jamie King, writer and director of what Cirque is billing as "Michael Jackson, THE IMMORTAL World Tour." The tour will kick off in Montreal next October and hit 30 cities including New York, Miami, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Las Vegas. John Branca, co-executor of Jackson's estate, said that depending on fan response, it could be extended beyond its planned end in the summer of 2012 and travel outside of North America.

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Attorney for Marianas Public Land Trust

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff,
vs.
KYLE E.M. ULECHONG and JENNIFER N.W.
ULECHONG, Defendants.
Civil Action No. 09-0407
AMENDED SUMMONS

TO: THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS, KYLE E.M. ULECHONG and JENNIFER N.W. ULECHONG:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO APPEAR by the 21st day after the fourth date of publication of this AMENDED SUMMONS and defend the above entitled action in the CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, at the Office of Clerk of Court, CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustia, Iimwal Awee, House of Justice, Susupe Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307; and answer the Complaint for Foreclosure by Plaintiff Marianas Public Land Trust, and serve a copy of your answer upon Robert Tenorio Torres, attorney for Plaintiff Marianas Public Land Trust, at Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950; and in case of failure to do so, a default will be rendered against you according to the demand of the Petition, which has been filed with the Clerk of Court.

So ORDERED this 25th day of November, 2009.

/s/ Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

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Kobe's triple-double leads Lakers past Kings



SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—Kobe Bryant had 30 points, 12 assists and 10 rebounds to help the Los Angeles Lakers win their fifth straight game to open the season, 112-100 over the Sacramento Kings on Wednesday night.

Pau Gasol added 22 points and 11 rebounds, and Lamar Odom scored 18 for the Lakers, who have won seven straight against their Northern California rivals.

Bryant had his 17th career triple-double and first since Jan. 21, 2009, against the Clippers. He had only two triple-doubles the past five seasons.

The Kings won three of four to begin the season for their best start in seven years. That brought hope among Sacramento fans that a rivalry that had grown stale in recent years could be rekindled to what it was a decade ago when these teams were annually among the top contenders for a title.

But the Lakers dealt the young Kings a dose of reality that beating Cleveland, Toronto and Minnesota is a little different than going up against the two-time defending NBA champions.

A 3-pointer by rookie DeMarcus Cousins and a basket by reigning Rookie of the Year Tyreke Evans helped Sacramento get within six early in the third quarter. The Lakers responded with a 13-1 run that gave them a 79-61 lead and essentially put the game away early.

Ron Artest hit a 3-pointer to extend the lead to 20 points. The Lakers got a scare late in the third quarter when Odom was hunched over in pain holding his left hand. He was tended to by the training staff and quickly returned to the game and made a 3-pointer, showing no ill effects.

Just when it looked as if the Lakers could rest their stars on the back end of back-to-back games, the Kings rallied to cut the lead to 99-92 on a layup by Evans with just under 4 minutes to go.

Derek Fisher answered with a 3-pointer and then got a steal for a three-point play that made it 105-92 with 3:14 to go. Bryant converted a three-point play when he pump-faked to draw a foul on Luther Head and then made a jumper that hit the rim and backboard before falling in to generate cheers from the large contingent of Lakers fans on hand.

Evans scored 21 to lead the Kings. Francisco Garcia, Carl Landry and Beno Udrih each added 17.

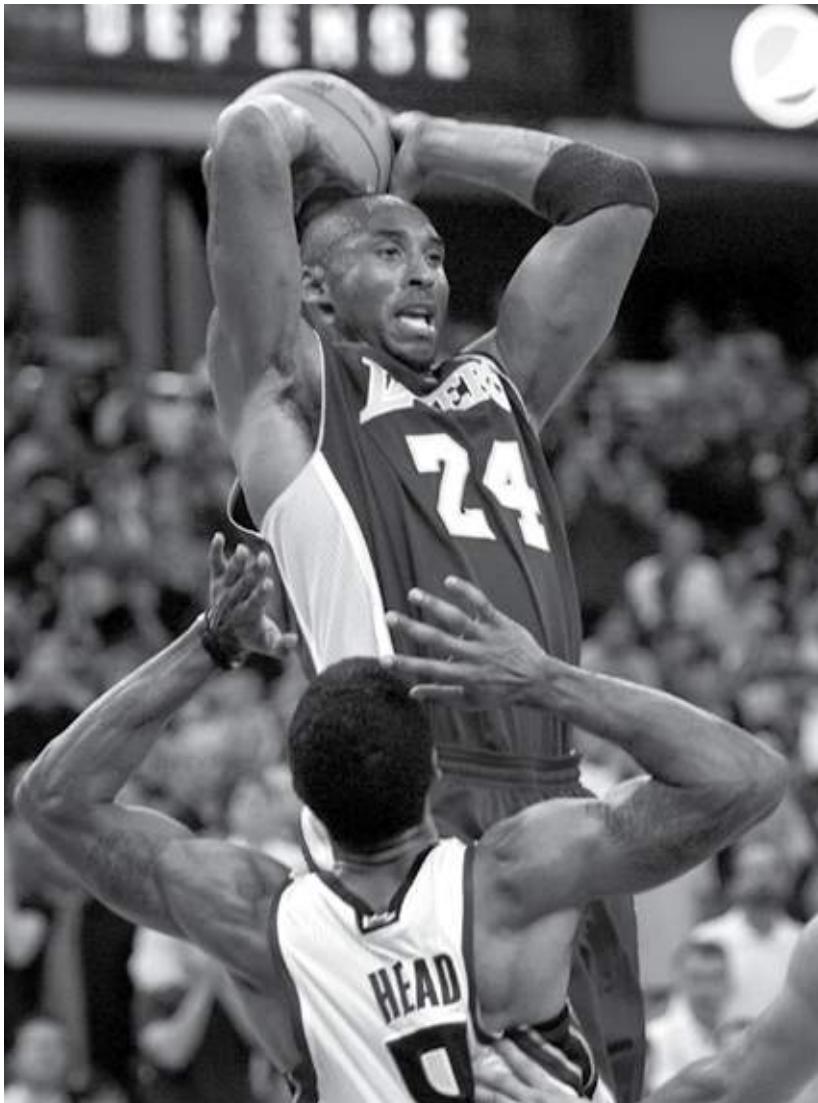
Bryant hit a pair of 3-pointers over Evans in the opening minutes and then turned into a distributor. He had six assists in the first quarter as the Kings struggled defensively against the Lakers.

The Kings opened a five-point lead midway through the second quarter when Bryant went to the bench for his usual rest. He returned to convert a four-point play over Evans on his first offensive trip.

That started a 15-3 run that included seven points from Bryant and an alley-oop pass to Odom. The Kings went nearly six minutes without a basket and trailed 62-53 at halftime after Bryant fed Matt Barnes with a full-court pass for a layup at the buzzer.

Celtics 105, Bucks 102

At Boston, Paul Pierce scored 12 of his 28 points in overtime to reach 20,000



AP
Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant looks for someone to pass to as he is guarded by the Sacramento Kings' Luther Head (9) in the second half in Sacramento, Calif., Wednesday Nov. 3, 2010.

points in his career and added a key steal with 27 seconds left to help the Boston Celtics beat Milwaukee.

Ray Allen had 23 points for the Celtics, Rajon Rondo had 17 points and 15 assists, and Kevin Garnett scored 13 and grabbed eight rebounds.

Andrew Bogut led the Bucks with 21 points and 13 rebounds. Ersan Ilyasova and Carlos Delfino each scored 15

points and Brandon Jennings had 13.

Hawks 94, Pistons 85

At Atlanta, Al Horford had six straight points in an 18-4 run to finish the game and the undefeated Hawks beat winless Detroit.

Josh Smith had 22 points and 11 rebounds as the Hawks improved to five wins, remaining the only unbeaten

team in the Eastern Conference.

Ben Gordon had 22 points but it wasn't enough for Detroit.

The Pistons are 0-5 for the first time since the 1980-81 season, when they started 0-7.

Magic 128, Timberwolves 86

At Orlando, Dwight Howard had 18 points, 16 rebounds and eight blocked shots to help Orlando set a club record for most points in the first half in a victory over Minnesota.

Vince Carter had 20 points, Ryan Anderson scored 19 and the Magic shook up the starting lineup to score 78 points in the opening half for an easy win. Orlando started Anderson at power forward, moved Rashard Lewis to small forward and bumped Quentin Richardson out of the starting lineup.

Kevin Love had 22 points and Corey Brewer scored 12 for the Timberwolves.

Mavericks 102, Nuggets 101

At Denver, Dirk Nowitzki scored a season-high 35 points and Caron Butler hit a pivotal 3-pointer late in the game, helping Dallas hold off a Denver squad missing center Nene.

Butler hit a 3-pointer from the corner with 2 minutes remaining to give the Mavericks a 102-99 lead.

Carmelo Anthony answered with a dunk to trim it to one and after a Mavericks shot-clock violation, the Nuggets had one last chance.

But Anthony's 20-footer with Shawn Marion in his face rimmed out and the Nuggets couldn't track down the rebound in time.

Bobcats 85, Nets 83

At Newark, D.J. Augustin hit two go-ahead free throws with 30.9 seconds to play and Charlotte won for the first time this season, overcoming a 10-point, fourth-quarter deficit.

Boris Diaw scored 24 points, Gerald

Rivers bothered by tweeting of in-game comments

BOSTON (AP)—Boston coach Doc Rivers feels what is said on the court should be left on the court.

Detroit's Charlie Villanueva took it to Twitter on Tuesday night, writing on his account that Kevin Garnett called him a "cancer patient" during Boston's 109-86 road win.

Villanueva suffers from alopecia universalis, a medical condition that results in hair loss. He does not have hair on his head.

Garnett, known as a trash talker, stuck to his usual routine and did not speak to the media before Wednesday's game against the Milwaukee Bucks.

He did issue a statement before the game.

"I am aware there was a major miscommunication regarding something I said on the court last night. My comment to Charlie Villanueva was in fact: You are cancerous to your team and our league," Garnett said. "I would never be insensitive to the brave struggle that cancer patients endure. I have lost loved ones to this deadly disease and have a family member currently undergoing treatment. I would never say anything that is distasteful. The game of life is far bigger than the game of basketball."

After Boston's overtime victory over the Bucks, he was asked about his emotions on the court the past two games, but not specifically about Villanueva's tweet. He also drew a technical along with Andrew Bogut in Boston's 105-102 victory.

"I'm a passionate player," he said. "If you don't like the way I am ... I play this way the last 15, 16 years. I leave it on the court."

One of Villanueva's tweets read: "KG called me a cancer patient, I'm (mad) because, u know how many people died from cancer, and he's tossing it like it's a joke."

Rivers defended his forward while wondering why someone would need to share in-game comments.

"I actually heard what Kevin said. I was right there, what he really said is in the statement. I'm going to leave it at that," he said. "I don't like the whole tweeting thing. I'm going to state that as well. Guys talk on the court. It doesn't mean they should or shouldn't. The fact that we're talking about this, it's just silly. It really is. We had a hell of a game yesterday and we should be talking about basketball."

"Talking about what the guys said during the game, there isn't a place. I don't find a place for it."

Villanueva was bothered by what he thought he heard.

"I wouldn't even trip about that, but a cancer patient, I know way 2 many people who passed away from it, and I have a special place 4 those," the message reads.

He also wrote that Garnett talks a lot but has probably never been in a fight, and he'd love to step in a ring with him.

Boston guard Ray Allen was on the court, but didn't hear the alleged comment.

"I don't know anything about it. The first I heard about it was actually this afternoon when I was eating and ready to head over," he said. "I don't know what was said. They had words and they were kind of going at each other."

He also said players should be careful with any tweets or pictures taken off the court.

"Definitely in this day and age we come across so many people with cameras and cell phones and Twitters," he said. "The social network is such a huge thing in this day and age. You have to be consistent with your message."

Allen said he does not tweet any longer after an incident involving his account.

Wallace had 20 and Stephen Jackson scored eight of his 12 in the final 5:12 to lead Charlotte, which survived two final shots by Travis Outlaw in the closing seconds.

Devin Harris shook off a sprained left shoulder to lead the Nets with 19 points and eight assists.

76ers 101, Pacers 75

At Philadelphia, Elton Brand had 25 points and 12 rebounds, and Thaddeus Young scored 16 points to help Philadelphia to its first victory of the season.

Sixers coach Doug Collins wasn't around to celebrate his first win since he was hired in May. Collins left the bench at halftime because of symptoms related to vertigo. He missed two preseason games because of symptoms related to a concussion he sustained on Memorial Day, then had neurological testing and treatment for what was diagnosed as vertigo.

Darren Collison led the Pacers with 11 points. Danny Granger, averaging 27.0 points, was 2 for 14 and scored only seven.

Hornets 107, Rockets 99

At Houston, Chris Paul scored 25 points and Marco Belinelli added 18 as New Orleans continued its unbeaten run and Houston remained winless.

The Hornets have won all four games this season to match the best start in franchise history.

Kevin Martin and Aaron Brooks scored 18 points apiece for Houston. Yao Ming added 15 in just under 21 1/2 minutes.

Jazz 125, Raptors 108

At Salt Lake City, Deron Williams came within two rebounds of a triple-double and Utah rolled to a huge early lead en route to a victory over Toronto.

After giving up the first basket, Utah scored the next 17 points, then went on another 8-0 tear en route to a 41-22 first-quarter lead.

Williams finished with 22 points, 14 assists and eight rebounds. Al Jefferson led the Jazz with 27 points and Paul Millsap added 21 in Utah's 11th straight victory over Toronto.

Spurs 112, Suns 110

At Phoenix, Richard Jefferson hit four fourth-quarter 3-pointers, including the go-ahead basket with 1:38 remaining, as San Antonio edged Phoenix.

Jefferson finished with 28 points, Tim Duncan had 25 and Manu Ginobili added 18 for the Spurs, who won in Phoenix for the first time since Jan. 29, 2009.

Jason Richardson scored 21 points, Hakim Warrick added 19 off the bench and Steve Nash also had 19 for the Suns.

Clippers 107, Thunder 92

At Los Angeles, Eric Gordon scored 27 points, rookie Eric Bledsoe added 17 points and eight assists in his second career start, and Los Angeles held Kevin Durant to a horrific shooting night in its first victory of the season.

Blake Griffin had 18 points and nine rebounds for the Clippers, who rebounded from an 0-4 start with an impressive win over the Thunder and Durant, last season's NBA scoring champion. Durant scored 16 points but missed 10 3-point attempts while going 6 for 24 against Los Angeles.

Thousands cheer on Giants at San Francisco parade

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Tens of thousands of fans flocked to downtown to toast the San Francisco Giants' World Series championship and see their hometown heroes take a victory lap on Wednesday in a ticker-tape parade reminiscent of the one held when the team moved from New York 52 years ago.

"This is Christmas, New Year's and your first-born all rolled into one," said Steve Williams, 51, an usher at AT&T Park as he gathered with Giants employees at the start of the parade in the financial district. "I'm on cloud nine."

Fans crowded the sidewalks and flooded Civic Center to salute a team of self-described misfits and castoffs.

Under a sunny sky, confetti rained on team members and civic dignitaries as they rode down the parade route in convertibles and cable cars on wheels. Street lamps were festooned with orange and black—the team's colors.

Marching bands, floats and costumed



mascots added to the street party.

"I've never seen anything like this in my life," center-fielder Andres Torres said as he greeted fans behind a barricade. "The parade has been amazing."

Fans of Brian Wilson, the quirky reliever whose facial hair has become a local obsession, paid tribute to him by painting beards on their faces and wearing T-shirts that read, "Fear the Beard." He stoked the crowd by jumping up and down and giving people high-fives.

Slugger Aubrey Huff, who threatened to unveil his lucky red thong at the parade, made good on his words by waving it at fans. They roared with deafening approval.

At the Civic Center, fans climbed into trees and streetlights to get a better view, the police unable to reach most of them over the crush of bodies. The scent of marijuana wafted in the air even though a ballot measure aimed at legalizing pot was defeated in Tuesday's elections.



Mayor Gavin Newsom was giddy as he described growing up a "fanatical Giants fan" and dreaming about playing for the team one day.

"I thought I'd see (a World Series championship) in my lifetime, but never thought I'd see it as mayor," Newsom said. "It's incomprehensible that this happened."

The parade moved from the financial district, then down Market Street to the Civic Center where Newsom presented the team a key to the city.

Thousands of raucous fans had gathered at the same spot beneath City Hall's orange-lit dome on Monday to watch an outdoor big screen television that captured the team's Game 5 win over the Texas Rangers. The Giants finally achieved the World Series trophy that eluded them in 1962, 1989 and 2002 since leaving New York.

San Francisco Giants pitcher Tim Lincecum celebrates as fans cheer as he rides in a motorized cable car during a baseball World Series parade in downtown San Francisco, Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2010.

AP



NEW YORK

(AP)—Vladimir Guerrero became a free agent Wednesday when the AL champion Texas Rangers declined his \$9 million mutual option, and Adrian Beltre hit the market when he turned down his \$10 million player option with the Boston Red Sox.

Teams and players prepared for the start of free-agent negotiations Sunday under the new schedule that shortened the post-World Series "quiet period" from 15 days to five.

"I think there'll be more aggressive behavior," said agent Scott Boras, who represents Beltre and fellow free agent Jayson Werth. "I would say as many as eight to 10 teams are unhappy with what happened to their teams for a variety of reasons. And I believe there are a number of fan bases that expect a great deal more out of their franchises than has been given to date."

Under the new rules, the general managers' meetings could see more activity. GMs meet Nov. 16-17 in Orlando, Fla., with owners meeting there Nov. 17-18. The winter meetings, the usual offseason focal point, are Dec. 6-9 in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

"I think it makes the GM meetings vastly more relevant mainly because of the fact that a GM can walk into a room and make a dramatic move,

Texas lets Guerrero go free; Beltre enters market

where before he could only talk about it," Boras said. "The free agent airport is very different because now the captain of the plane can take off with passengers where before you could only position on the runway."

Cliff Lee, the 2008 AL Cy Young Award winner, is the top available free-agent pitcher, and the Yankees plan to attempt to woo him from Texas. The Rangers hope to keep him after reaching the World Series for the first time, which should boost ticket sales.

"It's hard for me to speculate on that because I don't know where this is going to go," Rangers president Nolan Ryan said. "You read reports that the Yankees are after him and they are determined to sign him. What that means, I don't know."

Other free agents include Boston catcher Victor Martinez, White Sox first baseman Paul Konerko, Tampa Bay slugger Carlos Pena and closer Rafael Soriano and Angels designated hitter Hideki Matsui.

Texas gave a \$1 million buyout to Guerrero, a former AL MVP who hit .300 with 29 homers and 115 RBIs during the regular season but slumped to .220 (13 for 59) with no homers and six RBIs in 15 postsea-

son games. He went 1 for 14 (.071) in the World Series.

"He was a huge member of our team, played hurt, played hard. He was a great teammate," Michael Young said. "He was a massive part of our team. Hopefully he's back next year. We need him, without a doubt."

Beltre, who gets a \$1 million buyout, led Boston with a .321 batting average and a career-high 49 doubles in 154 games. He hit 28 homers and tied David Ortiz for the team lead with 102 RBIs. Boston must decide Thursday whether to exercise a \$12.5 million option on Ortiz.

Cincinnati declined a \$12.75 million option on right-hander Aaron Harang, who gets a \$2 million buyout after going 6-7 with a 5.32 ERA.

"With the struggles I've had the past couple years and a few injuries and stuff, I just had a feeling that was going to happen," Harang said.

The Reds exercised an \$11.5 million option on right-hander Bronson Arroyo and a \$1.75 million option on outfielder Jonny Gomes, and turned down a \$4 million option on shortstop Orlando Cabrera.

Oakland declined a \$12.5 million option on third baseman Eric

Chavez, exercised a \$6 million option on second baseman Mark Ellis and a \$5.75 million option on outfielder Coco Crisp.

Chavez, a six-time Gold Glove winner, said in September he may retire. The 32-year-old was playing rehab games in the Arizona Rookie League when he had to stop because two bulging disks in his neck became too bothersome each time he batted. It also affected his surgically repaired right shoulder.

"We're incredibly appreciative of everything Eric gave this organization," assistant general manager David Forst said. "He literally gave us everything his body could handle. I hope he is up to playing next year because I know that's what he wants."

The New York Mets exercised their \$11 million option on shortstop Jose Reyes. New Mets general manager Sandy Alderson said "a long term deal is not out of the question" for the injury-prone All-Star shortstop, who hit .282, with 10 triples, 11 homers, 54 RBIs and 30 steals.

Aramis Ramirez exercised his \$14.6 million option to remain with the Chicago Cubs. The third baseman was bothered by injuries and

batted .241 with 25 homers and 83 RBIs in 124 games.

San Diego declined its \$8.5 million option on right-hander Chris Young, who was sidelined most of the season with a strained right shoulder. Catcher Yorvit Torrealba declined his \$3.5 million mutual option with the Padres.

Seattle turned down an \$8 million option on oft-injured left-hander Erik Bedard, who gets a \$250,000 buyout, and a \$5 million option on designated hitter Russell Branyan, who gets \$500,000.

The Los Angeles Dodgers exercised their half of a \$2 million mutual option on outfielder Scott Podsednik, who has until Thursday to accept or decline.

Tampa Bay declined a \$4.25 million option on reliever Dan Wheeler and a \$2.2 million option on infielder Willy Aybar. Wheeler gets a \$1 million buyout and Aybar \$275,000.

Washington declined its \$2 million option on second baseman Adam Kennedy, instead giving him a \$250,000 buyout.

Among players eligible for arbitration, the Mariners declined a \$5 million option on third baseman Jose Lopez and Pittsburgh agreed to a one-year contract with left-hander Wil Ledezma that pays \$700,000 in the major leagues next season and \$300,000 in the minors.

Westwood in hunt, Tiger opens with 68 at HSBC



SHANGHAI (AP)—In his first tournament as the world's No. 1 player, Lee Westwood looked the part at the HSBC Champions.

Westwood opened with a 6-under 66 at Sheshan International to put his name atop the leaderboard Thursday as the first round was winding down. The Englishman is playing for only the third time in three months.

Tiger Woods, who lost the No.

1 ranking for the first time in more than five years, kept pace with a 68. Woods opened with bogey, made a stunning save on the 15th with a 4-iron out of a cluster of bushes, then made three straight birdies early on the back nine.

Francesco Molinari was at 7 under with three holes to play.

PGA champion Martin Kaymer, now No. 3 in the world, had a 72, while defending champion Phil Mickelson shot a 69.



Tiger Woods of the United States hits the ball from the bunker on the 11th green during the first round of the HSBC Champions golf tournament at the Shanghai Sheshan International Golf Club Thursday, Nov. 4, 2010 in Shanghai, China.

AP

Titans claim receiver Randy Moss off waivers



NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—The Titans felt that Randy Moss was just too good to pass up twice.

So they didn't.

After skipping Moss in the 1998 draft, Tennessee claimed him off the waiver wire Wednesday.

"Timing is everything," coach Jeff Fisher told The Associated Press on Wednesday night. "I really think the quicker we get him on the field, the longer he's here, the more productive he'll be. We think that he can help us, and I'm looking forward to seeing him run under those deep balls."

The Titans didn't seem to be the front-runner to get Moss, ranking 23rd among NFL teams in the waiver system. But Tennessee was the only team to put in a claim on the talented, but much-traveled wideout.

Concerned about Moss' character in 1998, Tennessee, then the Oilers, drafted Kevin Dyson with the 16th pick overall instead.

Fisher said the Titans did their "due diligence" on Moss. That included talking to Moss and former teammates like current Titans backup quarterback Kerry Collins. Fisher said Moss was excited about the move, and the NFL's longest-tenured coach with his current team



In this Sunday, Oct. 31, 2010 photo, Minnesota Vikings wide receiver Randy Moss runs a route against New England Patriots cornerback Kyle Arrington (27) during the second half of New England's 28-18 win in an NFL football game in Foxborough, Mass.

isn't concerned about how the 13-year veteran now with his third team this season.

"Randy's been a good teammate, and he's very popular. I think this is a great opportunity

for him. It's a fresh start," Fisher said. "We've got a great locker room. They'll accept him. I'm confident he'll accept his new teammates as well."

Moss can help the Titans, at 5-3 a half-game back in the AFC South with five divisional games remaining. They have lost their last two playoff games, and Fisher said Kenny Britt, who hurt his right hamstring in last week's 33-25 loss to San Diego, will miss the Titans' game Nov. 14 at Miami.

They hope to have Moss in sometime this weekend during the Titans' bye. Their last practice is Thursday, and players won't be due back until Tuesday.

"Randy's excited to get back playing football," agent, Joel Segal said. "He's ready to go and looking forward to get there."

Moss already is being welcomed.

Safety Michael Griffin tweeted "welcome Randy Moss" and All Pro running back Chris Johnson had been lobbying for the Titans to pick up Moss as well. Johnson shares the same agent as Moss and had been telling Segal how much he wanted the receiver in Tennessee.

"Why do we need Randy Moss?" Johnson said Wednesday, before the move was announced. "You can't put eight in a box if you got Randy Moss out there on the outside. If you've got Randy Moss out there, you

just can't play him one-on-one. I feel like Randy would be a great addition to this team, be a great addition to our receiving group and really help us go deep in the playoffs."

That's what matters most for the Titans.

Owner Bud Adams turns 88 in January, and this franchise's lone Super Bowl berth was way back in 2000. The Titans lost a wild-card playoff game in San Diego in the 2007 season and wasted the No. 1 seed and home-field advantage in 2008 with a divisional round loss.

Britt has the NFL's best game receiving this season with his 225 yards and three touchdowns Oct. 24, and Vince Young currently is the NFL's top rated passer at 103.1. But the Tennessee passing offense ranks 24th, averaging 187.6 yards per game.

"Randy is obviously a Hall of Fame player and has the ability to be a difference maker for our offense," Titans general manager Mike Reinfeldt said.

Nate Washington said before the waiver deadline that he didn't think the Titans needed Moss, defending the group of young receivers who have been working hard. He said Moss would be welcomed, but Washington is the receiver most likely to slide out of a starting spot once Britt's hamstring heals up.

This move will allow the Ti-

tans to put the 6-foot-4 Moss on one side with the 6-3 Britt on the other.

"I welcome him with open hands," Britt said. "It's a guy I can learn from being another receiver ... and he can definitely help with our offense."

Moss is a relative bargain due about \$3.34 million for the final eight games this season. He easily brings the best resume of any receiver for this team since leaving Houston. He has 948 career receptions for 14,778 yards and 153 touchdowns, though his numbers have dipped drastically this season in his stints first with New England and then Minnesota.

He has 22 catches for 313 yards and five TDs in eight games. In his four games with Minnesota, he had 13 catches for 174 yards and two touchdowns with the Vikings losing three of those four games to drop to 2-5.

Collins played with Moss for a year in Oakland, and he said before the waiver deadline that he never had a problem with the receiver.

"He was professional, respectful, he was a team guy," Collins said. "I think a lot of the stuff that you see and hear gets overblown. The guy speaks his mind. He's very truthful with what he says and that doesn't always play well. He was a great teammate."

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PILCOWA caging moved to January



The Pilipino Contract Workers Association Basketball League will now kick off in January next year instead of this month.

PILCOWA caging coordinator Pando Muleta said the opening date was moved to give interested teams more time to prepare. The postponement will also allow other leagues to conclude their respective competitions and prevent conflicts of schedule for players seeing action in various events.

With the PILCOWA caging opening in January, Muleta

added they will now accept more teams. Instead of having only eight teams, they are ready to have 10 to 12 squads.

Games will still be played at the JP Center Basketball Court every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Trophies for the Top 3 finishers will be awarded at the end of the season, while organizers will also hand awards to top individual performers—MVPs in the regular season and finals and winners of the various statistical departments (rebounds, assists, blocks, steals, and scoring).

The third edition of the

PILCOWA caging will have competition only in the open division with Noni Saipan expected to defend its title. Noni swept Saipan Fresh in last season's best-of-three finals. Noni, which finished runner-up to Diamond in the inaugural PILCOWA caging in 2008, won Games 1, 96-87, and 2 108-103, to rule last season's competition. (PR)

Diamond's Mel Capalad drives against Saipan Fresh defenders during their game in last season's PILCOWA caging at the JP Center Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



MAFEA

From Page 36

coach said the team's strategy involved three known important factors to winning a match and eventually a championship. These are defense, teamwork, and the will to win.

"They defeated us in the regular season with a large margin and we can't seem to find a way to close in from start to finish. So, when it was time to play in the finals, our No. 1 focus was defense. It has been said a lot of times that offense wins you games, but defense wins you championships," said Del Rosario, adding that since the near perfect game plan was so ordinary, it boiled down to executing it.

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt's defense, particularly the exterior or one, left MDX's outside gunners struggling for their shots. Against MAFE-Ali'i Konflikt in the regular season, MDX made 11 triples. In Game 1 of the finals, MDX made only one, courtesy of Bon Tamayo. In Game 2, MDX had only three, two in the first half, and one in the second.

Teamwork

On offense, Konflikt drew contributions from multiple players, as a result of their good ball distribution.

"Just before the finals started, everybody decided that to win against a tough team like Chow Queen, we have to have a solid teamwork. We have to move the ball around and find the open man," Del Rosario said.

Team captain Elmer Es-

drelon echoed Del Rosario's sentiments, as he was often heard telling his teammates during brief huddles to give extra passes.

In Game 1, Konflikt surprisingly did not have Esdrelon as their top scorer, as the burden of the team's offense was spread evenly on Bernard Aquino, Darwin Barbo, Mel Capalad, and even Jomary Tumaquip. Aquino had 24 points in Game 1, Barbo added 21 and Capalad and Tumaquip combined for 25 markers.

Aquino and Tumaquip also did a great defensive job against MDX's deadly shooters, while Barbo and Capalad teamed up with Edmark Mendoza in solidifying Konflikt's frontline defense.

Will to win

In both games, MAFE-Ali'i Konflikt led by big margins before the determined Chow Queen caught up with the eventual champions in the fourth quarter.

Game 1 went to overtime after MDX climbed back from a 14-point deficit.

According to Del Rosario, the series opener was a test of

wills for both teams and fortunately his squad came out the more resilient ones and eked out a 103-96 victory.

"Our team captain Elmer Esdrelon had cramps and could not play in overtime. However, our other players showed heart and stepped up to win Game 1. They (players) gave whatever was left on them and hung in there."

Game 2 was not different from Game 1 with MAFE-A losing the double-digit lead, but still showing poise in the end to wrap up the series.

"MDX did catch up a lot of times and even took the lead, but every time we have a chance to talk, we always remind each other if we really want it, look at our supporters/family/friends and put it in ourselves that we are doing this for them and we won't let them down. Honestly, we didn't think or feel that the championship is ours already until the final buzzer because Chow Queen is a tough team. MDX players had been through a lot of tough battles and I know they will not stop until they get the win, but my boys showed a stronger fighting heart to win the championship."

they started in the final quarter, relying on quality defense and effective ball movement on the other end to keep the lead they held all game. The Sonics also consistently won the battle for rebounds down low, which hindered the Sparks' second chance opportunities.

Ajoste and Galarse combined for 31 points for the Sonics. Faisao and Hossain were snubbed to a combined nine points in the third quarter. The Sonics finished what

teammate Eugene Manglona stepped up off the bench with 10 markers, the Sonics as a group provided more bench support in the contest.

Sonics 53 — Ajoste 16, Galarse 15, Ecalnea 6, Tudela 5, Palacios 4, Sula 4, Salas 2, Villanueva 1.

Sparks 48 — Faisao 13, Hossain 12, E. Manglona 10, Mettao 8, M. Manglona 3, Norita 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-8, 26-22, 40-37, 53-48.

stroke and 50m backstroke are only for swimmers in the elementary division, while the 100m breaststroke and 100m backstroke are only for junior high and high school students.

The elementary division will have competition in two age groups—the boys and girls 9-and-under and 10-and-above. The high school division will have separate contests for boys and girls, too, while junior high school will be allowed to have their sixth graders swim in ei-

ther elementary or junior high, but the entire grade must be in the same category.

Each swimmer is allowed to compete only in two individual events and one relay. Only the Top 2 swimmers per school will be awarded points in the individual events and the top team per school for a relay. Ribbons will be awarded to the top finishers in each event per age group, while trophies will be given to champion schools in each division.

SONICS

From Page 36

the first quarter.

The Sparks fought back and trimmed the deficit to four points, 22-26, at the end of the first half.

However, the Sonics' defense remained strong and held the Sparks scorers Ichitaro Faisao and Sahj Hossain to a combined nine points in the frame.

Galarse and Bryan Ajoste

ture swimmers from Hopwood Junior High School, too.

The high school division will be a four-team battle among GCA, Mt. Carmel School, Southern High School, and Kagman High School.

There will be 12 events on race day. All divisions will have the 200m freestyle relay, 200m freestyle, 50m butterfly, 50m freestyle, 100m freestyle, 200m individual medley, 400m freestyle, and 200m medley relay. The 50m breast-

stroke and 50m backstroke are only for swimmers in the elementary division, while the 100m breaststroke and 100m backstroke are only for junior high and high school students.

The elementary division will have competition in two age groups—the boys and girls 9-and-under and 10-and-above. The high school division will have separate contests for boys and girls, too, while junior high school will be allowed to have their sixth graders swim in ei-

SSC

From Page 36

Academy, Garapan Elementary School, San Vicente Elementary School, William S. Reyes Elementary School, Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, Tanapag Elementary School, and Oleai Elementary School.

The SIS Geckos, SCS Tsunamis, and Whispering Palms also have entries in the junior high school division, which will fea-

PACESETTERS

From Page 36

Ibarra scored for Tan Holdings, while Paire Black drew its lone goal in the game from Jeff Cheon.

With the win, Tan Holdings moved up from fourth to third place in the team standings. Paire Black dropped to fourth after absorbing its third loss in five games.

Matansa 5, Independents 1

Matansa also recorded its second win in five matches, following a 5-1 triumph over Independents.

Sean Perez had a hat-trick for Matansa, which got its two other goals from Yoshi Ray Mafnas and David James Bucayo. Wesley Emul put Independents in the scoreboard with his goal in the second half.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	4	1	.800	—
New Jersey	2	2	.500	1 1/2
New York	1	2	.333	2
Toronto	1	3	.250	2 1/2
Philadelphia	1	4	.200	3

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

Atlanta	5	0	1.000	—
Miami	4	1	.800	1
Orlando	2	1	.667	2
Washington	1	2	.333	3
Charlotte	1	3	.250	3 1/2

CENTRAL DIVISION

Chicago	2	1	.667	—
Indiana	2	2	.500	1 1/2
Cleveland	1	3	.250	1 1/2
Milwaukee	1	4	.200	2
Detroit	0	5	.000	3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

New Orleans	4	0	1.000	—
Dallas	3	1	.750	1
San Antonio	3	1	.750	1
Memphis	2	3	.400	2 1/2
Houston	0	4	.000	4

Northwest Division

Portland	4	1	.800	—
Denver	2	2	.500	1 1/2
Oklahoma City	2	2	.500	1 1/2
Utah	2	2	.500	1 1/2
Minnesota	1	4	.200	3

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	5	0	1.000	—
Golden State	3	1	.750	1 1/2
Sacramento	3	2	.600	2
Phoenix	1	3	.250	3 1/2
L.A. Clippers	1	4	.200	4

GIRLS U14

Matansa 3, Tan Holdings 0

Matansa Football Club continued to dominate the girls U14 competition, stretching its winning streak to six.

Matansa claimed its sixth win via a 3-0 shutout victory over Tan Holdings FC last Saturday at the San Antonio Elementary School Field.

Andrea Camacho, Thalia Hideo, and Chelsea Les

Ferrera Builders return to form; IT&E triumphs

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER


Ferrera Builders and IT&E took different routes to victory in the continuation of the QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup Wednesday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Ferrera Builders fended off Wings Travel, 79-73, in the second game to remain tied for first place in the standings.

IT&E, for its part, turned a meager three-point advantage in the first half to a 107-61 blasting of Cellular Pro in the first game.

The win improved Ferrera Builders' win-loss record to 7-1, while IT&E is now tied for second place in the standings with Wings Travel. Both teams hold identical 5-3 records.

Cellular Pro, which dropped to 2-4, is now ranked in the bottom half of the 10-team field and will have to find some wins soon to make the playoffs.

Ferrera Builders managed just a four-point lead, 21-17, after the opening period even with prolific big man Kae Bernardo pouring in 10 points. Brendon Talania tallied seven points for Wings Travel in the first 10 minutes of action.

Ferrera Builders then shot ahead by 19 points at the half, 48-29. James Abuy led the offensive charge with nine points, while his team held Wings Travel to just 12 points.

Wings Travel fought back after the break and pulled within seven, 59-52, heading into the fourth and final quarter. Talania and Darin Keizer combined

Ferrera Builders' Noel David drives hard to the hoop against Wings Travel defenders in last Wednesday's QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup matchup at the Garapan Basketball Court.

WALTER SUTHERLAND



for 14 points in the rally and their defense contained Ferrera Builders to only 11 markers in the third quarter.

Dennis Morales scored nine of the first 10 points for Wings Travel at the start of the last quarter in an attempt to continue the comeback, but Ferrera Builders recovered and maintained its advantage for the remainder of the contest.

Bernardo led Ferrera Builders with 21 points, while Talania and Tony Diaz each totaled 17 markers for Wings Travel in the loss.

The first game of the night

started out close and was a one-point game, 19-18, in favor of IT&E after the opening period. Marlon De Dios led IT&E with six points and received five points apiece from teammates Errol Peredo and Bernard Montano, while Roger Herrera led Cellular Pro with seven.

The game remained competitive in the second quarter as Peredo and Ivan Devero combined for 15 points to help stretch IT&E's lead to three, 45-42, at halftime. Herrera added 12 points for Cellular Pro in the second quarter.

Then after the break, IT&E

put in an extra gear and blew the game open in the third quarter. IT&E held Cellular Pro to only nine points as a team in the third quarter as it extended its lead to 25 points, 75-51.

De Dios and Joy Dayrit started the charge for IT&E with a combined 14 points and Peredo found a string of 10 points to close out the quarter.

It was much of the same in the final period, as Cellular Pro was held to a meager 10 points at crunch time, while IT&E piled on over 30 points to leave Cellular Pro in the dust. Aside from some offensive bursts by

Herrera, Cellular Pro virtually disappeared after one competitive half of play.

Peredo led IT&E with 24 points, while Herrera finished with a game-high 25 in the loss.

First Game

IT&E 107 – Peredo 24, De Dios 19, Devero 14, B. Montano 13, Park 12, J. Montano 10, Dayrit 8, Usi 7.

Cellular Pro 61 – Herrera 25, Rotap 16, Palacios 10, Duflo 4,

Lost 4.

Scoring by quarters: 19-18, 45-42, 75-51, 107-61.

Second Game

Ferrera Builders 79 – Bernardo 21, Abuy 16, Mortos 14, Abuel 10, David 8, Miranda 4, Abedes 3, Demapan 2.

Wings Travel 73 – Diaz 17, Talania 17, Morales 13, Keizer 12, Aquino 9, Gabaldon 3, Berline 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-17, 48-29, 59-52, 79-73.

Mei wins 8-ball qualifier at USSP



Mei Rengiil avenged her only loss to take first place in Sunday's qualifier for the USS Peleliu Club Veteran's Day Customer Appreciation 8-Ball Tournament.

Rengiil shot Taylor Watanabe and John Mongami into the loser's bracket before falling to Ron Chisato in the winners bracket final. Chisato had also forced her to settle for fourth place with two wins in their last meeting on Oct. 17.

Chisato opened with wins over Brenda Rideb and Annie Tesiro. Tesiro had defeated Erina Olkeriil.

Watanabe eliminated Tesiro, but Olkeriil went on a run. She downed Rideb, then befuddled Mongami and Watanabe with bad position as she patiently pocketed her balls.

Rengiil stopped her streak at three and set up the rematch with Chisato in the championship.

He started strong in the first game, but gave Rengiil an opening and she ran off six balls and the 8-ball. Chisato

had two chances at pulling off the same feat, but couldn't pull it off.

Rengiil won \$17.50 and a trophy from Pacific Amusement. There is a \$5 entry fee for the Veteran's Day qualifying tournaments. Half of the money goes to the winner, and the other half is added to the \$100 first and \$50 second

place money put up by USSP for the Nov. 11 final.

Rengiil's win upped her points total to five, making her the third seed in the Veteran's Day championship. Chisato is still the top

seed, with 10 points after his second place finish. Mongami is second with six points. Simeon Kapileo and Patrick Cepeda have three, Olkeriil two, with a point apiece for Bill Kaipat and Watanabe.

Sign-up begins at 7:30pm for the Sunday qualifiers. Opponents are chosen by blind draw for the double elimination tournament. Play follows Billiard Congress of America rules.

For more information, call Rose or Ken Phillips at 233-1984. (PR)

PIC Fall Dodgeball Classic set on Nov. 12, 13

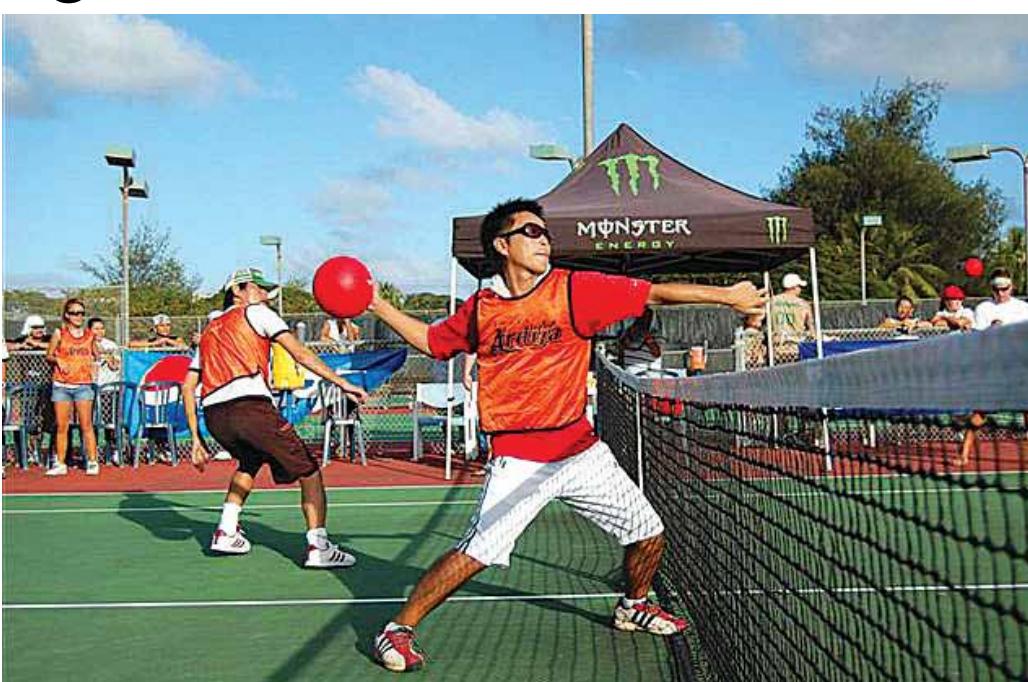
By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Pacific Islands Club Saipan will be hosting its biannual 2010 Fall Dodgeball Classic on Nov. 12 and 13 at the PIC tennis courts to raise money for the PIC cancer charity fund.

There is a \$100 entrance fee with a 16-team limit; 10 teams are already confirmed. Teams can have up to 10 members on the roster with a minimum of two female players; at least one female player must start each game. The event will incorporate modified National Dodgeball Association rules.

Each game consists of three matches that last three minutes apiece. Besides the total score after the best of three series, the number of players left standing on each team will serve as a tiebreaker for ranking purposes, if needed.

Teams will be randomly drawn into four groups on Friday and will compete in two pools. A 6pm, team captains meeting will be held at PIC on Friday with the first sets of games between Pool 1 groups



Former PIC Dodgeball champion Team Ardija will be returning to the courts next weekend to try and take back the PIC Dodgeball trophy.

A and B beginning at 6:30pm. Then Pool 2 competition will take place between groups C and D to determine each team's individual ranking heading into Saturday's elimination round.

On Saturday, the parade of teams will be presented at 1:30pm before the single elimi-

nation playoffs start at 2pm. An awards ceremony will be held immediately after the finals.

The PIC dodgeball events started back in July of 2009. Last April, Huevos Grandes bested The Ideal Team back in PIC's Dodgeball For a Cause trophy and they will be back to

defend their title next weekend.

Pacific Trading Co. is the flagship sponsor for the event and additional sponsors are being finalized. For more information email sportsmanager@picsaipan.com, activitiesmanager@picsaipan.com or ask for Dennis or Glenn at 237-5147.



The Refaluwasch Golf Associations November Ace will be up for grabs this Sunday when RGA holds a tournament on the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

Check-in time is at 11am, while tee off is at 12pm.

Members joining this weekend's tournament must score better than net 74. If not, Bae Young Man will keep the November Ace title. Man set the score to beat in the November Ace after topping a qualifying tournament on Oct. 23, also at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

Winner of the November Ace will get the 11th slot on the RGA Club Championship, which will be played in December and will feature all 12 monthly Ace titlists.

The November Ace winner will join early RGA Club Championship qualifiers Jun Yi

Piao (January Ace), Joe Saures (February), Nick Leon Guerrero (March), Carl Hocog (April), Xian Lai Cue (May), Jesse Seaman (June), Tars Olopai (July), Jess Wabol (August), Ray Tigilau (September), and Tony Satur (October).

Meanwhile, RGA is reminding monthly Ace winners to compete in at least 10 RGA-sanctioned tournaments to join the battle for the Placido M. Tagabuel Memorial Cup, which is given to players who wins the club championship in December.

Also at stake in the year-end event are the Sid K. Peter and Tony Taitano awards, which are given to the member with the low net score in the year and most rounds played, respectively.

For more information about RGA tournaments, contact Jordon Kosam at 483-4506, Dwaine Stephens at 288-0005, or Joe Saures 483-5506. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)



**Kobe's triple-double
leads Lakers
past Kings**

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Saipan Tribune Sports



**Ferrera Builders
return to
form; IT&E
triumphs**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pace setters widen lead in youth league



MP United's Angelo Jones kicks the ball during one of their games in the boys U14 in the NMIFA fall league at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Leaders strengthened their grip of the top spot in the three divisions in the 2010 NMIFA Youth Football Fall League after Week 6 games were completed last Saturday at various field on Saipan.

At the Oleai Sports Complex Field, MP United notched its fifth win in six games after trouncing Matansa Football Club in the first game, 7-3.

The win kept MP United in the lead, while the loss dropped Matansa further to the bottom of the team standings. Matansa holds a 1-0-5, win-draw-loss record.

Dae Min Jeon and Lee Seoung Joon made two goals apiece for MP United, while YiShan Wang, Christopher Camacho, and Hong Moon Bin added one each.

With his pair of goals in Week 6, Jeon now leads the league in most goals scored with seven. Teammate Wang has scored six, while Charles McEntee of Independents has logged five.

In the second game, Paire



improved to a 4-1-1 mark after edging Independents, 2-1.

Mason Fruit and Mark Huang had one goal apiece for Paire, while McEntee scored the lone goal for Independents.

BOYS U14 MP United 10, Shirley's 0

MP United remained unbeaten in six games, following a 10-0 shutout victory over Shirley's Coffee Shop at the Hopwood Junior High School Field. Enrico del Rosario, John Diego Masga, and Aaron Lee teamed up in MP United's lopsided win, drilling two goals apiece. Bryce Daly, Andrew Johnson, and Bob Kim chipped in one goal each.

Shirley's absorbed its fourth loss in five games and is second to the last in the team standings in the seven-squad field.

Tan Holdings 4, Paire Black 1

Tan Holdings gained its second win in five games after topping Paire Black, 4-1.

Michael Park, Jeron Ano, Choi Woo Seok, and Danderic

See PACESETTERS on Page 34

MAFEA sets near perfect game plan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Since the title series in the 2010 United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Reinforced

Basketball League was already over, MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt coach Norman Del Rosario is ready to disclose their not-so-secret game plan against dethroned champion MDX-Chow Queen.

The MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt
See MAFEA on Page 34



MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt's Darwin Barbo, right, and Edmark Mendoza double-team Kae Bernardo, who eventually lost the ball, during Game 1 of their title series in the UFO caging last month at the JP Center Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Sonics fizz out Sparks, 53-48

The Sonics' Tristan Ecalnea, right, rejects a shot by the Sparks' Sajh Hossain in last Wednesday's U19 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League game at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

WALTER SUTHERLAND



By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Sonics served the Sparks their first loss of the season, 53-48, in last Wednesday's U19 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basket-

ball League matchup at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The win improved the Sonics' win-loss record to 7-1, tied for first place in the U19 standings. The loss dropped the Sparks' record to 5-1.

The Sonics took control of the match right from the start

by making a statement with their defense that held the Sparks to only eight points in the opening period.

Leo Galarse led the Sonics with six points in the first quarter to help his team build a seven-point advantage, 15-8, in

See SONICS on Page 34

SSC All Schools swim meet lures over 100 students

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Over 100 students will plunge into the pool when Saipan Swim Club holds the 17th All Schools Swimming Championships tomorrow at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

"Hopefully we will have a good turnout as over 100 athletes/students are participating in the Saturday race," SSC's Lisa Kimball said.

The weekend swim meet will have competitions in three divisions: elementary, junior high school, and high school.

The elementary division has the most participating schools with 12. The list include division favorites Saipan International School, Saipan Community School, and Whispering Palms. Joining them are Calvary Christian Academy, Grace Christian

See SSC on Page 34



Young swimmers prepare to plunge into the pool during a local meet last month at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool. They will return to the Marpi pool tomorrow for the 17th All Schools Swimming Championships.

